

THE NATIONAL

# Wool Grower

VOLUME XXXIX

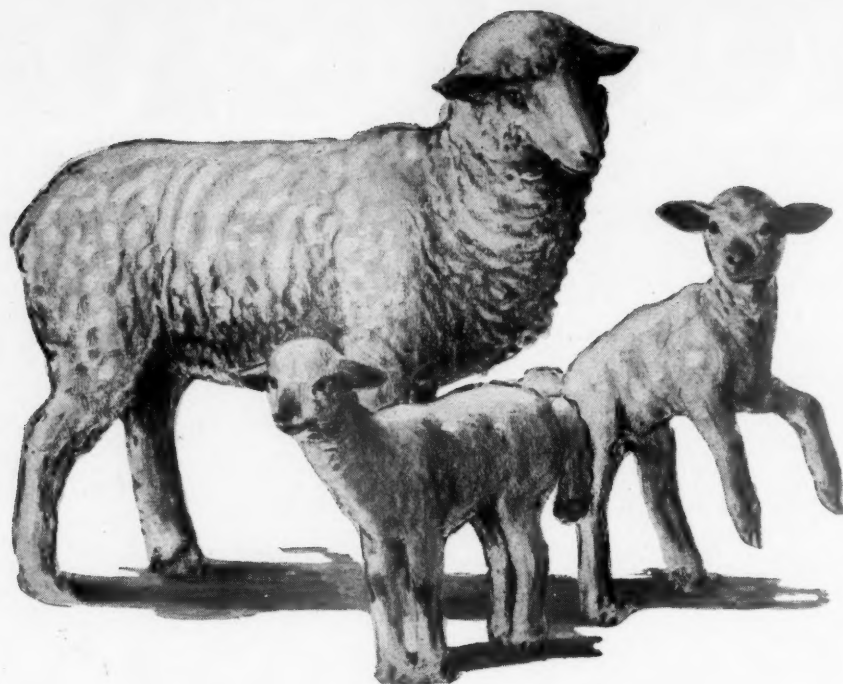
APRIL, 1949

NUMBER 4

*There Is No Winter So Bleak*



*But That Spring Brings New Life and Hope*



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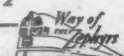
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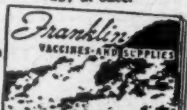
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## THE COVER

Our thanks go to President Howard Vaughn for this month's spring cover, both picture and legend. He makes no claim, however, to the proud Columbia mother and her twins. They come from the Campbell Ranch (Mrs. Nancy Frost Campbell) of Dixon, California. He does have a part interest, at least, in the photograph of little miss at the right. For she is Kathleen Ford, daughter of Ival Ford, one of the key men at the Vaughn plant.

## The Cutting Chute

### Farm Calculator

Mr. George DeVries has invented a farm calculator. Feeling that farmers lose some money because they do not like to figure, Mr. DeVries went to work on this calculator after serving as a flier and naval instructor in World War II. During service he had invented a useful calculator for navigators.

After putting in many hours of figuring, he has brought his farm calculator to finished production. Instead of setting down figures on paper and multiplying or dividing, with the calculator you turn disks and the answer is shown in a rectangular slot.

The calculator, we understand, is not being sold in single units but is available to associations or firms in bulk quantities. Further information can be obtained from the Vernon Company, Newton, Iowa.

### Ramstetters Lose Valuable Ram

Bonvue Ranch of Golden, Colorado, has been hard hit in the death, through accident, on March 6th, of their youngest imported Corriedale ram, Record Breaker 135.

This ram was a half brother of two rams sold last season by the Guthrie Stud of Australia for 1,000 and 1,250 guineas, respectively, writes Donald Ramstetter, who, with his father, Ernest Ramstetter, operates the Bonvue Ranch.

"In death, Record Breaker sheared a beautifully lustrous three-eighths fleece weighing 26 pounds for ten months' growth," Ramstetter says. "While the loss of this ram is a tremendous blow to our breeding plans, we fortunately have 40 rising yearlings out of him and expect some 80 lambs from him this spring."

### Price Support for Seed Production

To encourage increased production of hay, pasture and range grass seed, the Production and Marketing Administration, USDA, has set up a price support program for 1949.

The supports, which will be handled through purchase agreements with farmers, range from nominal sums on hay and pasture grasses to \$1.25 a pound for certified Ladino clover. Hay and pasture seeds included under the program are alfalfa, various kinds of clover, lespedeza, and several grasses. Range grass seeds include buffalo grass, switch grass, bluestem, lovegrass, and Indian grass.

This support program has been set up by the Department of Agriculture because supplies of these seeds are low now, and it is expected that there will be an enlarged need for them in the future when some of the land now planted in wheat, cotton and other cash crops is turned to the production of forage crops.



## United States Testing Company Will Have Denver Laboratory

H. M. Block, vice president of the United States Testing Company, has recently made known that his firm expects to set up a laboratory, probably in the Stock Yards area, in Denver, Colorado, about June 1. At first the plant will be used largely for the testing of grease wool but later will do various types of research work for the Rocky Mountain area, according to present plans of the firm.

## Burns in Iran

Dr. Robert H. Burns, head of the Wool Department of the University of Wyoming, is now in Iran, one of a group of 7 agricultural specialists making a 4-month study of economic conditions in that country. Dr. Burns, it will be recalled, was a member of the group that spent the last 6 months of 1946 in China on a somewhat similar mission.

## Meat Production in 1949

"Total meat production in 1949 is now expected to be about 22 billion pounds compared with 21½ billion in 1948. Considering the increased population, per capita meat consumption is expected to approximate 146 pounds, about the same as last year. There will be less beef, veal and lamb, but more pork."

This statement was made by R. J. Egbert, associate director of the American Meat Institute's Department of Marketing, before the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association in Albuquerque on March 29th.

## Per Capita Meat Consumption

The following table on meat consumption during 1948 and as estimated for 1949, comes from the Agricultural Bulletin of the National Association of Food Chains:

Consumption in	Pounds per Capita			
	Beef	Veal	Lamb	Hogs
1948	63.4	9.4	5.	68.2
1949, estimated	60.8	8.7	4.4	70.8

## Meat Cookery in Television

Meat cookery is being televised. Dramatized on the television screen just recently was a 4-day meat cooking school conducted at Atlanta, Ga., by Misses Anna Bines and Barbara Heide, field home economists of the National Live Stock and Meat Board.

Through television these ladies were seen in action as they prepared some 40 beef, veal, pork and lamb dishes and 20 dishes made with lard, before homemaker audiences. In addition, all these dishes were shown to the television audience, garnished and ready to serve.

## 1949 National 4-H Shearing Contest

Regulations governing the 1949 National 4-H Sheep Shearing Contest have just been released by the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work. Mr. Henry Mayo, Extension Animal Husbandman, Purdue University, will be general superintendent of the contest. The finals will be held during the International Live Stock Exposition in Chicago.

First and second place winners are awarded college scholarships by Sunbeam

Corporation, sponsors of the contest. The Red Ribbon Group consisting of the next six winners will be awarded \$50.00 U. S. Savings Bonds. Championship belts of top grain cowhide and specially designed sterling silver 4-H buckles will be awarded State winners.

The program is carried on in each State by the 4-H Club leader and the extension service. All 4-H club members under 21 are urged to see their County Extension Agent for details. For a copy of the contest regulations, write to: State 4-H Club leader or Sunbeam Corporation, 5600 Roosevelt Road, Chicago 50, Illinois.

## Shepherd's Clinic at Austin, Minnesota

Some 650 farmers from southern Minnesota attended the second annual Shepherd's Clinic in Austin, Minnesota, on February 19th, according to the Hormel Farmer.

Practical demonstrations on determining

age of sheep through teeth, docking and castrating, drenching of ewes, shearing and creep feeding were featured.

## Meat and Teeth

Dentists are now in common agreement that good nutrition is a very important factor in the prevention of dental decay.

Information on this point was gathered by Miss Anna E. Boller, director of the Department of Nutrition of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, at the recent national convention of dentists in Chicago.

Observations in South Africa give evidence that teeth decay is usually very low among people whose diet is high in meat and low in carbohydrate food.

"Although there is much more to learn in this field," says Miss Boller, "such evidence as is obtainable points to the value of a protein diet, including meat, dairy and other high protein foods in assuring dental health."

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John H. Breckenridge, Twin Falls, Idaho  
Wallace Ulmer, Miles City, Montana  
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Ward Van Horn, Buffalo, South Dakota  
Sayers Farmer, Junction, Texas  
Don Clyde, Heber, Utah  
V. O. McWhorter, Yakima, Washington  
Harold Josendal, Casper, Wyoming

### Affiliated Organizations

Arizona Wool Growers Association  
14 East Jefferson St., Phoenix  
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H. B. Embach, Secretary

### California Wool Growers Association

151 Mission Street, San Francisco  
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W. P. Wing, Secretary

### Colorado Wool Growers Association

325 Kittredge Bldg., Denver  
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408 Beneficial Life Bldg., Salt Lake City  
Don Clyde, President  
J. A. Hooper, Secretary

### Washington Wool Growers Association

16 South First Street, Yakima  
V. O. McWhorter, President  
A. E. Lawson, Secretary

### Western South Dakota Sheep Growers Association

Rapid City  
Ward Van Horn, President  
H. J. Devereaux, Secretary

### Wyoming Wool Growers Association

McKinley  
Harold Josendal, President  
J. B. Wilson, Secretary

## New Aids in Fighting Grasshoppers

Chlordane and texaphene, two new insecticides are recommended by the United States Department of Agriculture for fighting grasshopper plagues. Care should be used in handling them, however, as they are poisonous. Also, warning is given that forage treated by these chemicals should not be fed to dairy cows or to stock being fed out for slaughter. Such animals should not be grazed on treated pastures for at least a few weeks after the insecticides are used. For more complete information, the Department of Agriculture suggests that county agents be consulted.

## New Assistant to Chief of Range Management, United States Forest Service

Leon C. Hurtt has been appointed special staff assistant to W. L. Dutton, chief of the Range Management Division of the U. S. Forest Service. For many years, Mr. Hurtt has been in charge of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station at Missoula, Montana. That post has now been assigned to Edwin J. Wolfolk, formerly assistant chief in the Division of Range Research in Washington.

## "Elastration"

Some two million lambs were docked and castrated last year by Elastration, the California Wool Growers Association reports.

Most Wool Grower readers are familiar with this device, which was first put on the American market in 1947. Resembling a pair of pliers, it stretches a special ring over the part to be eliminated, and as the ring contracts, circulation stops which causes the part to atrophy and drop off. The California Association handles its distribution.

## Retailers Consider Lamb Problems

A recent Memphis, Tennessee, retail panel discussion on the lamb marketing problem came to these conclusions:

1. The complete food store must handle lamb.
2. It requires more promotion than other meat.
3. Consumer must be educated to more lamb uses.
4. National ads are a help.
5. Shoulders must be sold on flavor, not appearance.
6. More research is needed.

The story of the panel discussion is carried in the March 1949 issue of the National Grocers Bulletin.

A San Diego retailer—Bill Free, manager of Bradshaw Meats—in the National Grocers Bulletin for February 1949 asks "Who Says Lamb Won't Move—Fast?" He asserts that they move 17 lambs a week through a flexible cutting method, display based on eye appeal and quality, plus "tipping off the housewife to cuts she can use economically."

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VOLUME XXXIX

NUMBER 1

APRIL, 1949

414 Pacific National Life Building  
Salt Lake City 1, Utah  
Telephone No. 3-4483

J. M. Jones  
Irene Young } Editors

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**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**—Payment of dues in the National Wool Growers Association includes a year's subscription to the National Wool Grower. Dues and subscriptions are received along with state association dues by the secretaries shown for the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. To non-members \$5.00 per year. Entered as Second Class Matter, January, 1913, at the Post Office at Salt Lake City, Utah, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 8, 1917, authorized August 23, 1918.

The National Wool Grower



National Executive Committee Group in Session in Salt Lake City, March 18, 1949. Seated, left to right, President E. P. Hazard of the Colorado Association; Vice President Jake Mayfield of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association; National President Howard Vaughn, California; National Vice President John Reed, Wyoming; President E. R. (Cap) Marvel of the Nevada Association; National Secretary J. M. (Casey) Jones. Standing, left to right, Vice President Douglas Clark of the Utah Association; President Harold Josendal of the Wyoming Association; National Vice President T. C. Bacon, Idaho; National Vice President H. J. Devereaux, South Dakota; Clayton Puckett, Immediate Past President of the Texas Association; President John H. Breckenridge of the Idaho Association; President Harry Petersen of the California Association; Honorary President C. B. (Dutch) Wardlaw of the National Association; National Vice President A. R. Bohoskey, Washington; President W. H. Steiwer of the Oregon Association; Secretary Everett E. Shuey of the Montana Association; Honorary President R. C. Rich of the National; President Wallace Ulmer of the Montana Association; and Honorary President G. N. Winder of the National. President Don Clyde of the Utah Association attended the meeting but was not present when this picture was taken, and Assistant Secretary E. E. Marsh of the National was the photographer.

## The National Executive Committee Meets

THE Executive Committee of the National Wool Growers Association were called together by President Howard Vaughn for a meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, on March 18, 1949.

### Legislative Committee Appointed

Committee members from all State Associations, with the exception of that for Arizona, and all officers, except Vice President Ray W. Willoughby of Texas and Honorary Presidents Sylvan J. Pauly and T. J. Drumheller, were in attendance, and in a roll call vote, unanimously approved the President's selection of members of the Association's Legislative Committee for 1949.

Members of that committee, as appointed by President Vaughn, include

the five vice presidents, T. C. Bacon, Idaho; H. J. Devereaux, South Dakota; Ray W. Willoughby, Texas; John A. Reed, Wyoming; and A. R. Bohoskey, Washington; and J. B. Wilson of Wyoming. President Vaughn will act as chairman of the committee.

### Special Lamb Marketing Committee

The President also announced that following instructions given by the Executive Committee in its meeting in San Antonio, February 4th, he had named the following to serve as a special committee to investigate ways and means of improving lamb marketing conditions at the central markets: John H. Breckenridge, Idaho; A. R. Bohoskey, Washington; W. Leonard

Beers, Utah; W. D. Farr, Colorado, and J. C. Petersen, Iowa.

### Committee on Revision of Constitution

Executive members recommended that the President appoint a committee to revise the constitution and by-laws of the National Association, particularly in connection with membership and voting in the Executive Committee, and as members of that group the President asked the following to serve: Wallace Ulmer, Montana; Don Clyde, Utah; Jake Mayfield, Texas; John A. Reed, Wyoming; and R. C. Rich, Idaho.

This committee was also asked to consider convention committee pro-



cedure with special attention on voting privileges in such committees.

### Disaster Loans

The committee instructed Association officers to strive to secure legislation covering disaster loans for those who have need for them as a result of the winter's devastation. The committee, however, did not favor economic loans.

### Swan Island and Sanitary Embargo

Considerable anxiety has been caused among stockmen because the law passed in 1946 providing for the establishment of a quarantine station on Swan Island weakened the embargo set up in the Tariff Act of 1930. In this 1930 law the importation of livestock from any country where foot-and-mouth disease exists is prohibited, while under the act providing for the Swan Island Quarantine Station such importations would be permitted, "notwithstanding the provisions of any other law," subject, of course, to the regulations set up by the Secretary of Agriculture.

A letter from Dr. B. T. Simms, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, USDA, read by Secretary Jones to the Executive Committee, said that two bills (S. 1105 and H. R. 177) had been introduced in Congress to repeal the act providing for the Swan Island Quarantine Station and therefore nothing would be done by the Department of Agriculture in that direction until after Congress had acted upon those measures.

### Long-Range Agricultural Program

The wool growers' organization continues, as it has done since 1865, firm in its conviction that the best way to encourage or promote a healthy sheep industry in this country is through equitable tariff protection. Since that apparently is not possible under present trends, and domestic growers must compete with cheaper labor and other production costs in foreign countries, some other type of assistance must be accepted, in the opinion of the executive group.

While Association officers will seek, as directed by convention resolution, to have wool made a basic agricultural commodity, the committee felt that it

was necessary to provide direction for the Association officers on the method of handling the support program for wool. It was generally agreed that if there is to be a new program, growers would prefer one which required as little Government regulation as possible and at the same time would help to promote stability in the industry.

After considerable discussion, it was moved, seconded and unanimously adopted, that "with the present law\* going into effect in 1950, or if the present Congress passes similar legislation for a long-range agricultural program affecting wool, our officers are instructed to negotiate with the Department of Agriculture for some manner of payment similar to the way called for under the National Wool Plan."

Most wool growers are familiar with the National Wool Plan or program, as it was presented at State conventions and also was explained in the National Wool Grower in December, 1948.

### Disposal of Stockpile Wools

Committee members also expressed themselves as being in favor of the disposal of the stockpile wools held by the Commodity Credit Corporation to foreign countries receiving financial assistance through the European Recovery Program. This action was taken by the committee on the basis that most of the wools apparently are not suited for use in this country, as mills have had an opportunity to purchase them and have not done so.

### International Trade Organization

Strong opposition was registered against the United States becoming a member of the International Trade Organization, as when that occurs not only Congress would have lost its tariff-making powers, but the United States as well, as trade would then be regulated by the International setup.

The executive group will have its regular mid-summer meeting in Salt Lake City, August 24 and 25, at Ram Sale time.

\*Under this law the wool purchase program is available to growers until June 30, 1950, but commencing January 1, 1950 the Secretary of Agriculture must set up a support program for wool on the basis of 60 to 90 percent of a modernized parity until domestic wool production equals 360 million pounds.

## Stockmen at Rate Hearings

JAMES A. Hooper, secretary of the Utah Wool Growers Association and a member of the Transportation Committee of the National Wool Growers Association, put in the principal testimony, and Thomas Arnold, Nenzel, view in the Interstate Commerce Commission hearing on the railroads' request for another 13 percent increase in freight rates (Docket 168).

The hearing was held in Chicago on March 17th. W. D. Farr, Greeley, Colorado, put in the feeders' testimony, and Thomas Arnold, Nenzel, Nebraska, the cattlemen's.

Charles E. Blaine, traffic specialist for the National Wool Growers Association and the American National Livestock Association, summed up the position for the stockmen as follows:

"It is the position of those for whom I speak:

1. That the livestock traffic has been bearing and now bears an excessive and disproportionate share of the whole burden of transportation;

2. That the rates on livestock and wool have been and are unjust, unreasonable, unjustly discriminatory and unduly prejudicial in violation of Sections 1, 2, 3 and 15a of the Interstate Commerce Act;

3. That, therefore, they are opposed to any further increases in the rates on edible livestock, fresh meats, packing-house products, and wool, including the accessorial charges thereon, and respectfully but urgently request that the Commission require the carriers to forthwith cancel the interim increases of 4, 5, and 6 percent already authorized in this proceeding, and which became effective on January 11, 1949.

"In support of such position we shall endeavor to show:

- (a) That while the present rates and unit revenues per ton on livestock are the highest in history; and

- (b) That the numbers of livestock on farms, and numbers marketed have increased, the tonnage of livestock originated by the railroads has substantially declined.

- (c) That the railroads have not secured and are not securing increased revenue from the livestock traffic, but on the contrary;

- (d) They have failed by more than 13 million dollars to secure as much revenue from livestock under the higher rates during the last 18 months (January 1, 1947 to June 30, 1948) for

which the data are available as they formerly secured under the lower rates then in effect.

(e) That increased rail rates on livestock will not produce increased revenues from such traffic."

The I.C.C. also held a hearing in this

case in Salt Lake City on April 4, largely devoted to mining rates. However, Secretary M. C. Claar of the Idaho Association, James M. Coon, general manager of Western Wool Storage Company, and L. E. Pearson of Oregon, testified on behalf of the sheepmen at that time.

## At Washington

**LEGISLATION** covering disaster loans is awaiting the President's signature (April 2).

What is known as the Granger bill (H. R. 2101) passed the House on February 21. It authorized the Regional Agricultural Credit Corporation to make both disaster and economic loans in any agricultural production disaster area.

When this measure reached the Senate it was amended to conform with the O'Mahoney-Hunt bill (S. 913) and passed that body on March 18th. The conference committee from the House and Senate agreed on the bill as it passed the Senate and their report was approved by the House on March 31st and by the Senate on April 1st.

The bill now before the President dissolves the Regional Agricultural Credit Corporation and gives the Secretary of Agriculture power to make disaster loans, through any agency in the Department of Agriculture he selects and in accordance with regulations he may prescribe.

### Long-Range Agricultural Program

There has been no action on the revision of the long-range agricultural program, because the Secretary of Agriculture has not yet made his position clear in this connection. Matters should progress after April 7th, as a joint session of the Senate and House Agricultural Committees will hear Secretary Brannan on that date.

The main job of the wool industry, of course, is to protect the gains made in the Aiken-Hope Act of last year.

### To Study Disaster Insurance For Livestock

There is no commercial insurance company on the North American Continent that will write disaster insurance

for livestock generally. In view of this fact, Congressman Granger of Utah asked, and the House Agricultural Committee granted, authorization to Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to make a study of disaster insurance for breeding and feeder livestock in the West.

After a good many years the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation is still on an experimental basis for agricultural crops. It is, therefore, necessary for the Corporation to study the desirability and advisability of livestock disaster insurance.

### Appropriations for B.L.M.

The House passed the bill on appropriations for the Department of Interior for the next fiscal year on March 30th, and it now is with the Senate Appropriations Committee for consideration.

Stockmen are particularly interested in the funds to be allotted for the administration of grazing by the Bureau of Land Management. On this point Congressman Barrett of Wyoming, who always does a complete and fair job for all concerned, sums up the situation in his remarks on the floor of the House on March 30th:

"This appropriation for the Bureau of Land Management does not make an adequate allowance for the administration of grazing lands. The matter of proper administration of grazing districts and of grazing lands outside of districts has been the subject of much study by Congress, by the livestock industry and by others. . . . If the formula advocated by Mr. Nicholson, accepted by the stockmen and agreed to by the Congress, is applied, the appropriations for the past two fiscal years have been deficient by, roughly, \$300,000 each year of meeting this schedule. The amount allowed by the Committee for

1950 is actually less than the portion of the grazing fees going into the Treasury and makes no allowance whatever for the public benefits derived from Grazing Administration."

On the basis of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics formula that 70 percent of grazing administration is chargeable to livestock and 30 percent to public interests, the appropriation should be \$1,231,428, according to estimated income. On the best figures available, the amount appropriated by the House is \$158,487 short of the above figure. It is felt that Congress should appropriate funds sufficient to comply with the agreement under the Nicholson plan and public law 376.

Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee who will study the House measure before presenting it to the entire Senate are Senators Hayden (Arizona), chairman; O'Mahoney (Wyoming); McCarran (Nevada); Chavez (New Mexico); Thomas (Oklahoma); McKellar (Tennessee); Wherry (Nebraska); Cordon (Oregon); Gurney (South Dakota); Reed (Kansas); and Young (Dakota).

### Forest Grazing Receipts

For a number of years Senator Pat McCarran of Nevada has been introducing a bill in the Senate to legalize the expenditure of 25 percent of the grazing receipts from national forests for making improvements within such forests, including development of water resources, fencing, rodent control, reforestation, and reseeding. This year the bill (S. 2), it is understood has the approval of both Department of Agriculture and the Forest Service. However, it will probably take some energetic efforts to have it enacted into law. The bill is now with the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

—J.M.J.

### DISASTER LOANS AVAILABLE

President Truman signed the disaster loan bill on April 6th. The Farmers Home Administration in the Department of Agriculture will handle these loans and rules and regulations governing them are reported in the making (April 11th).

Anyone wishing to communicate with the F.H.A. in connection with disaster loans should write to Dillard B. Lasseter, Administrator, Farmers Home Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.



# Hoover Commission Asks Interior Department Reorganization

THE Hoover Commission sent its report on the reorganization of the Department of Interior to Congress on March 15, 1949. Some of the task forces which did the preliminary work for the whole Commission had proposed that the Department of the Interior be abolished and replaced by an entirely new department. The Commission, however, held that reorganization of the present Department would be "preferable."

In reaching that conclusion, they were guided by the historical background of the Department—"a century old in national life"; by the costs involved and by the difficulty of disentangling all the laws and authorizations under which it works.

The Commission made three recommendations covering its general reorganization:

**We recommend that the Department of the Interior should be thoroughly reorganized along more functional and major purpose lines.**

**This involves the transfer of certain agencies from the Department and the incorporation of certain agencies within it.**

**We recommend that the agencies listed below should be transferred to other offices or Departments, to which they are functionally more closely related:**

a. The Bureau of Indian Affairs to a new department for social security, education, and Indian affairs.

b. The Bureau of Land Management (except minerals) to the Department of Agriculture.

c. The Commercial Fisheries from the Fish and Wildlife Service to the Department of Commerce. (Other functions of this Bureau would remain with the Interior Department.)

**We recommend that the following agencies related to the major purposes of the Department be transferred to it:**

a. Flood Control and Rivers and Harbors improvements from the Department of the Army.

b. Public Building Construction from the Federal Works Agency.

c. Community Services from the Federal Works Agency.

d. Certain major construction to be

**assigned on behalf of other agencies of the Government, except where carried on by grants-in-aid programs.**

On none of the above proposals was there unanimity of approval by the Commission. Mr. James Forrestal did not agree with the recommended transfer of the B.L.M. to the Department of Agriculture. "Not only do I believe that this Bureau should remain in the Department of the Interior," he said, "but I feel that the Forest Service, presently in the Department of Agriculture, should be transferred to the Department of the Interior. These two agencies should be consolidated preferably in the Department of the

Interior which traditionally has been the department in our executive branch most concerned with the development and conservation of our natural resources. The Department of Agriculture, on the other hand, has been more interested in production than in conservation and its functions relating to natural resources should be transferred to the Department of the Interior."

Mr. Forrestal also dissented from the Commission's action on transferring the Commercial Fisheries to the Department of Commerce.

## Minority Report

A separate report by Vice Chairman Acheson and Commissioners Pollock and Rowe supporting their contention that an entirely new department should be set up, to be known as the Department of Natural Resources, is included with that of the Commission.

"Our . . . view," this minority report states, "is that the conservation, development, and use of our public resources is a single indivisible problem. It can be solved wisely only by the leadership of one governmental agency which would relate each part of that problem—forests, water, public lands, minerals, wildlife, fisheries, recreation, power—to the others and develop all of our natural resources together."

The divisions under the Department of Natural Resources as proposed by the minority group would be:

1. The Water Development Service.
2. The Forest and Range Service.

"The Forest and Range Service, to be based on the Forest Service and its general policies, include: a. The Forest Service, now in the Department of Agriculture; b. The functions of the Bureau of Land Management, now in the Interior; c. The research functions of the Department of Agriculture relating to forest insects and forest disease."

3. Fish and Wildlife Service.
4. Geological Survey.
5. Bureau of Mines.
6. National Park Service.
7. Oil and Gas Division.

Status of the legislation granting the President power to reorganize the executive branch of the Government, is the same as reported in the review of the Hoover Commission's recommendations on the Department of Agriculture in the March Wool Grower; namely, the House has passed the bill, but the Senate has not acted yet.

## SHEEPMEN'S CALENDAR

### Conventions and Meetings

August 24-25: Executive Committee, National Wool Growers Association and American Wool Council, Salt Lake City, Utah.

October 25-27: Wyoming Wool Growers Association, Rawlins.

November 17-18: California Wool Growers Association, San Francisco.

December 5: Colorado Wool Growers Association, Denver.

December 6-9: National Wool Growers Association, Denver, Colorado.

December 19-21: Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers Association, San Antonio.

### Shows

April 9-14: Grand National Junior Livestock Exposition, San Francisco, California.

June 8-10: Intermountain Junior Fat Stock Show, Salt Lake City, Utah.

October 28-November 6: Grand National Livestock Exposition, San Francisco, California.

November 26-December 3: International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago.

1950:

January 17-19: National Western Stock Show, Denver.

### Ram Sales

May 1: Far Western Sheep Dog Trials, Sacramento, California.

May 2-3: California Ram Sale, Sacramento.

July 21-22: All American Corriedale Show and Sale, San Angelo, Texas.

August 3: Idaho Ram Sale, Filer.

August 19: Oregon Ram Sale, Pendleton.

August 22-23: National Ram Sale, Salt Lake City, Utah.

September 7: Colorado State Ram Sale, Denver.

September 21: Idaho Purebred Sheep Sale, Idaho Falls.

September 24: Pocatello, Idaho, Range Ram Sale.

September 29: Surplus Ram and Ewe Sale, U. S. Experiment Station, Dubois, Idaho.

October 18-19: National Columbia Show and Sale, Minot, North Dakota.

December 3: International Hampshire Sheep Breeders Bred Ewe Sale, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

December 3: North American Suffolk Sheep Breeders Bred Ewe Sale, Oskaloosa, Iowa.





Columbia ewe lambs ten months old.

# The Making of The Columbia Sheep

By F. R. Marshall

**T**HE story of the making of the Columbia sheep has never been told in any detail. Some short articles from the Bureau of Animal Industry have stated that the breed was the outcome of mating the progeny of first cross Lincoln-Rambouillets, but why the work was started and the steps by which a new true breeding type came about are not of record. Since the Columbia has come into a large place in our sheep industry, it is fitting that the story of its development should be made public.

This is necessary, not only in the interest of the Columbia, but for what it teaches regarding inheritance in domestic animals and how characteristics found in different breeds may be combined in a true breeding of a new type to meet new requirements. The making of the Columbia is of special interest to the geneticist because it is the first breed for which there is a complete record of all the matings through which a new creation was produced.

Because I directed the matings after the first cross was made until the breed was named, only seven years, I am especially glad to comply with the suggestion of the National Wool Grower that I should set down the story of the origin of the Columbia.

## The Range Men's Problem in 1912

By 1912 the production of lamb had become of much greater importance in the range country than it was in the earlier days of sheep operations in the West and Southwest. The ewe flocks were still nearly altogether of fine wool blood without which the industry never would have been established in the range area. Some operators had found that by crossing these ewes with long-, or coarse-, wool rams they had obtained heavier lambs, which were also more satisfactory in the feed lot and at the packing house.

But getting these advantages in the lamb side of the business brought the problem of keeping up the ewe flock. Some larger outfits adopted the plan of breeding half their ewes to fine-wool rams to get replacements and the other half to long-wool rams to increase the lamb income. This system complicated operations, however, and was not possible for small concerns. Naturally some of these first-cross ewe lambs went into the breeding bands. They herded well, sheared well and were good mothers. In some years higher prices for half blood and three-eighths wool added to the returns from these crossbred ewes. They were sometimes bred to Hampshire rams and

produced top market lambs, especially in good summer feed areas in Idaho and parts of Wyoming, Utah and Montana. But the problem of maintaining the ewe flock was not changed. To go back to another cross of Lincoln or Cotswold rams made the fleeces too coarse, and the ewes too hard to herd, although it gave large crops of heavy lambs. Going back to fine-wool rams lost most of advantage in returns from lambs.

## The Start of the Experiment

Such was the range breeding problem in 1912. The Animal Husbandry Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry had already started its range sheep project at the ranch of King Brothers at Laramie, Wyoming, using purebred, unregistered Rambouillet ewes and registered rams. Suggestions came from the West to the Bureau of Animal Industry that it interest itself in this problem of maintaining range ewe flocks at the first-cross level. A start was made in the fall of 1912. At that time G. M. Rommel was chief of the Division of Animal Husbandry and E. L. Shaw was in charge of sheep and wool investigations. It was planned first to study the merits of the crossbreds by breeding Rambouillet ewes to



Lincoln 39, the progenitor of the Columbia breed. Practically all sires used in this breed trace to this ram.

rams of four breeds: Lincoln, Cotswold, Leicester, and Romney.

Four pens of 40 ewes each were made up and two rams of each of the breeds purchased, one ram of each breed was held in reserve. In 1913 Mr. Shaw was transferred to other work in the Bureau and I took over the sheep and wool work in September, 1913. On my first trip to Laramie I sorted out the lambs of the four crosses and was struck by the size, build and fleeces of the Lincoln crossbreds. Then I looked up their sire and it was easy to see how his lambs came as they did. He was registered with the Lincoln Sheep Breeders Association as Favorite 39,23159, bred by J. G. Lethbridge and Son of Alliance, Ontario, Canada. The Bureau had purchased him in 1912 from J. H. Patrick, who was then selling large numbers of long-wool rams to the range trade.

Of course no one had any idea at that time that this ram would be the progenitor of a new and popular breed. Perhaps my appreciation of Lincoln 39, as he was carried in the records, is colored by what he did but I still remember him as one of the greatest rams I ever saw. He was large, low set, with a back like a Suffolk, a hind quarter like a Poland China and a

chest like that of a Shire stallion. In his bone, head, heart girth, and carriage he showed remarkable constitution, which characterizes his descendants.

In fall of 1913, Lincoln 39 was given 66 ewes which produced 40 ewe lambs. This crop also was superior to the other crosses. It makes no difference whether this was due to the fact that their sire was a Lincoln or that he was such a good individual. The lambs had what was wanted and the next job was to find out how to hold it. But that is getting ahead of my story. In the spring of 1914 Lincoln 39 was found dead one morning. The making of first crosses was discontinued, and it was decided to see what could be made out of the Lincoln crossbreds on hand.

#### Arriving at the Breeding Plan

In these first-cross ewes we had almost an ideal range type for most of the country in which lambs were as important, or more important than wool. They herded well, produced good fleeces of lighter shrinking wool and were good mothers. The problem was—how to mate them so as to hold the type. I had recently been a professor, and like all or most of that ilk

had been taught that under no conditions should anything but purebred sires be used. And this opinion was held by most practical breeders and commercial livestock producers.

This idea may have been all right for the time but it ignored the fact that the established breeds had started out with crossing, though not always with a purebred parent. Originally there were no purebreds, though a few breeds have originated from crossing of established types. What is more important, it did not recognize that new breeds, or new combinations of qualities of existing breeds might be needed, as certainly was true in range sheep breeding after 1910.

Then there was another consideration that complicated our problem of perpetuating this crossbred type. Mendel's law had been rediscovered not long before. Like many new things it was at first overrated as to what it meant in animal breeding. Mendel proved an important fact about the inheritance of color in sweet peas. He showed that when parent stocks of two different colors were crossed and the hybrids mated, a quarter of the offspring would have one parental color, one quarter, the other parental color, and one half would still be hybrids. Some professors and stockmen jumped to the conclusion that one quarter of the progeny of, say, Lincoln and Rambouillet hybrids would be Lincolns, one quarter Rambouillets and half of them hybrids. They overlooked the fact that Mendel's results were based on single or unit characters. The color of a sweet pea was a unit character, but it is not true that length of wool is a unit character. It probably is made up of several factors, each of which may be transmitted in Mendelian fashion. Certainly in practical breeding for length of wool Mendelian considerations are more complex.

These two considerations, insistence on purebreds, and simplified Mendelism, complicated our thinking in working out a method of mating our Lincoln-Rambouillet crossbred ewes to get toward a fixed type of the same qualities. There was no breed available that filled requirements. James Laidlaw of Boise, Idaho, was then at about the same stage in making the Panama that we were with what became the Columbia. The Corriedale had been made in New Zealand for somewhat similar requirements but there were but a few head in this country until I made the Govern-

ment importation that arrived in 1915. I have sometimes thought it was a good thing that we did not have the Corriedales earlier. If we had had them in 1913 we might have thought the Corriedale was the answer to our prayer. It probably would have made a good sheep, with a little nicer wool, but certainly not with the size and vigor that resulted from the course we finally decided upon.

In the fall of 1914 there were 17 first-cross Lincoln-Rambouillet yearling ewes in the flock at Laramie, daughters of Lincoln 39. We had kept over two or three of their half brothers, sons of Lincoln 39. These rams were the same type as the ewes, of course. After threshing the whole problem over through a long time the answer came to me like this: these rams are the nearest thing we know of to what

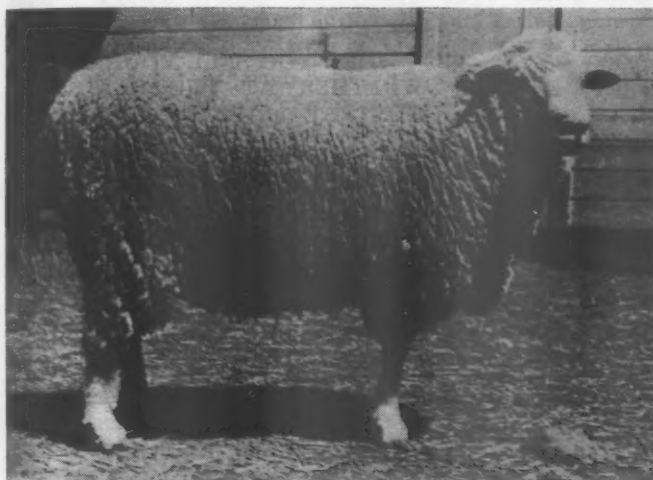
first-cross Lincoln-Rambouillet yearlings, bred by Stanley Coffin, Yakima, Washington, were added. These Coffin ewes were mated with Corriedale rams. A few of their descendants with three crosses of rams from the Bureau's flock founded on Lincoln 39, later were admitted to what was to be the Columbia flock. Also forty head of first-cross Lincoln-Rambouillet ewes were purchased in 1919 or 1920 from Dr. S. W. McClure, Bliss, Idaho.

In 1916, twenty-one second-cross yearlings were added. They were all sired by a son of the old ram, shown in the records as Lcn-Ramb (Lincoln-Rambouillet) No. 5. It appears that we must have put some of the top daughters of the Leicester and Romney rams in with the Lincoln crossbred ewes, as the records show that of this lot of twenty-one, ten were from ewes

this to fix the type as rapidly as possible. In this case sires and dams were both double grandsons and granddaughters of old Lincoln 39.

This mating is important in explanation of the more rapid progress than could ordinarily be expected in getting fixity of type. Not only did this system of mating serve to fix the type, but it also must be remembered that this concentration of blood was from a very superior individual with no constitutional defects, which have been the basis of trouble where close breeding is believed to have caused impairment of size and vigor.

Of course, in addition to the ewes referred to above as added to the flock, there also remained some of the first-cross ewes and some of their daughters that had been bred to rams only one generation away from the original



Lincoln-Rambouillet Ram 301, born in 1918. A third generation ram used before the breed was named "Columbia." The ancestry of this ram appears in the maternal side of the pedigree of 729 K.



Columbia Ram 1464 K. Photographed when three years old with four-months' growth of wool. He was born in 1930 and shows the build and constitution that has made the Columbia popular as a commercial sheep.

we need. True, they are hybrids and half brothers to the ewes, but what better can we do than to at least try out that mating? And that was the real beginning of what became the Columbia.

### The Early Generations

These 1914 yearlings were bred to their half brother Lincoln-Rambouillet 5. In 1915, after culling, about 30 yearlings were added to this flock. These were first crosses, and all were bred, necessarily, to sons of Lincoln 39. They were also the last of the first-cross ewes until 1925, except that in 1916, one hundred and thirty head of

sired by the Leicester and six by the Romney. In connection with this fact though, it should be stated that only in one or two cases were rams used that carried any of this other blood, and then it was after several crosses with rams still having one half their blood from old Lincoln 39.

In 1917, eleven yearlings were added. These were all sired by Lcn-Ramb 57, a first cross, and most, if not all of them were out of daughters of first-cross ewes. Then in 1918, eleven more yearlings were added. These were sired by Lcn-Ramb 199. He was by a first-cross ram and out of a first-cross ewe. Thus there was adherence to the plan of using mainly sires of the later crosses,

cross. However, we did aim, other things being nearly equal, to use as sires, rams that had the most crosses away from the first-cross stock.

Then, too, there was heavy culling of the lambs every year. Usually we kept over twice as many ram lambs as were likely to be wanted the next year. When they were yearlings they could be sorted again. The get of every sire were penned up separately when they were about six months old. Sometimes a ram that showed to be a good sire might be used again even if another having more crosses was available.

The following pedigree of a ram  
(Continued on page 32)





# Lamb Promotion News...

**T**HAT commission firms at the Omaha Stockyards are making plans to cooperate in increasing collections for the special lamb promotion fund of the National Livestock and Meat Board?

In a letter from the Omaha Livestock Exchange, we are advised that in a recent application for modification of their tariff, request was made for permission to increase collections for the Meat Board to 75 cents per car (3/5 cent per head on less than carload lots) on all sheep and lambs coming to the Omaha market. Tariff is expected to become effective about April 1st. We are happy that Omaha is planning to join with the Denver, Ogden, Ft. Worth and San Antonio markets in cooperating on collections for this worthwhile program.

Growers who believe in the progress of their industry will also be pleased to know that eight lamb slaughterers have agreed to cooperate in collections for this program on any sheep and lambs purchased direct.

These firms are: Armour & Company, Cudahy Packing Company, Swift & Company, Cudahy Brothers Company, John Morrell & Company, Rath Packing Company, Hormel & Company, and Landers Packing Company. Some of these firms have already started collections for this important fund.

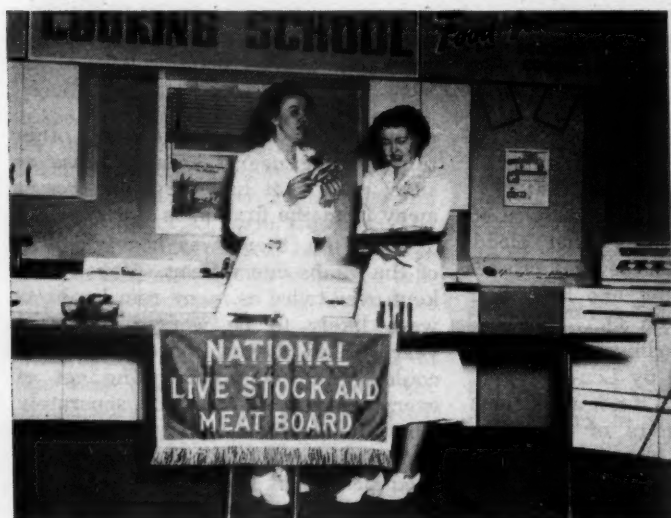
## Growers' Cooperation

Out of the 75 cents per car of sheep or lambs being contributed by growers, 50 cents goes into the special lamb promotion fund of the Meat Board. This 50 cents is now being used for lamb demonstration work carried on before home economics classes of various high schools and colleges. This "Lamb Goes to School" program is teaching the future housewives to appreciate properly cooked lamb. Many who pre-

viously thought they didn't like lamb are learning how delicious it can be. The remaining 25 cents per car goes into the general fund of the Meat Board to help carry on all of their activities in behalf of the livestock and meat industry. The 75 cents represents only about 1/8000th of the market value of the car of lambs sold.

**WHEN YOU SELL YOUR LAMBS, WHETHER AT THE RANGE OR CENTRAL MARKET, PLEASE INSTRUCT THE PURCHASER TO DEDUCT 75 CENTS PER CAR (3/5 CENT PER HEAD IN LESS THAN CARLOAD LOTS) TO BE REMITTED FOR THE LAMB EDUCATION PROGRAM AND OTHER WORTHWHILE ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL LIVESTOCK AND MEAT BOARD.**

## MEAT BOARD COOPERATION



Miss Helen Shepard and Miss Dorothy Holland of the National Live Stock and Meat Board staff, showing the proper way to prepare and broil some choice, thick, juicy lamb chops.



And here's part of the overflow crowd of women who saw the demonstration at a recent cooking school in Salt Lake City. This is just one of the many ways your 75-cents-per-car contribution is used to promote your industry.

# Interdependence Between Farm and Range Sheep Production

An Address before the 84th Convention  
By RICHARD C. MILLER, Sheep Specialist  
University of Kentucky

WHILE the invitation asking me to appear on the program of the convention of the National Wool Growers Association suggested that I talk about the Kentucky sheep industry, it also gave permission to select some other subject if I had one more to my liking. I have chosen, therefore, to discuss the interdependence between farm and range sheep production.

This will not limit me to my own State, but it will provide an opportunity to bring out some of the essential features of sheep production in Kentucky which, more than that of any other farm State, is closely related to the range industry. Our lamb program is based almost entirely on western ewes. Another reason for selecting this subject stems from a meeting I attended at a terminal livestock market last fall in which the chairman, in his opening remarks, expressed the opinion that there was no relationship between the western sheep rancher and the farm sheep raiser of the Middle West.

Years ago it was not unusual for sheepmen themselves to express similar opinions. They were honest in their convictions, yet completely wrong. They just didn't know. In my own State some farmers who fought the western ewe program the hardest, later became its ardent supporters. Some even apologized for temporary harm they had the distinction of causing through their vociferous opposition.

I have long considered it unfortunate that the farm flock owner and the western sheep rancher did not know more about the problems of each other and the interdependence of production in the two areas. So strongly have we felt about this matter at the Kentucky College of Agriculture, that each spring for several years, except during the War, at least one prominent western sheep authority has been featured in connection with our annual meeting of sheepmen.

Among the ranchers to meet with our sheepmen was Paul Etchepare, who at that time was secretary of the Montana Wool Growers Association. Earlier, we had brought Bob Miller

from California for a two-week series of meetings and Dr. Rufus Cox of Kansas, a native westerner, was with us for a week or more on several occasions. F. R. Marshall, when secretary of the National, J. M. Jones, and E. E. Marsh, have all appeared on our programs. Last year we were fortunate in having Howard Vaughn and J. C. Petersen. All of these men rendered invaluable services, most of them not only as speakers at our annual meetings but at a series of sectional meetings that preceded or followed the annual meeting at the college. In ad-



R. C. (Dick) Miller  
A snapshot taken at the San Antonio Convention.

dition, I have tried to keep close to the situation myself by making an occasional trip into the range States.

Without a source of supply of breeding ewes in the West, there would be no practical way of rebuilding the sheep industry in the farm States. Should sheep raisers in the State of Kentucky be unable to secure such ewes or lambs from which they could be developed, sheep as a farm enterprise would practically disappear from Kentucky farms.

What is true of this State is true, to a lesser degree, in many others, nearly all of which are thinking in terms of western blood for rebuilding their flocks. Fortunately, they can use a type of ewe or ewe lamb which range sheep producers do not require for rebuilding or maintaining their own herds. More about this later.

Another case where the relationship between range and farm sheep production is a "two-way street" is in feeder lambs. Of the some five or six million lambs that require feeding after they leave the ranges to put them in good killing condition, one half or more normally go east for finishing. While the majority of these go to the wheat fields of the Great Plains and to the Corn Belt, small numbers go to New York State, and some even to the Southeast where there is a small but growing industry in finishing such lambs on pasture.

This farm State demand puts the western producer in a stronger market position. This is especially important since the bulk of range lambs must move from the ranges in a comparatively short period.

On the Denver market in the fall of 1947, I observed how a break in demand for feeder lambs in one area depressed the price of lambs generally. It had just become clear that Kansas wheat pastures had been cut short because of dry weather, and instead of carrying around one million lambs as they had the year before, they could, at most, take only a few hundred thousand. Lambs at the time were running heavy, especially from the West Slope

of Colorado. While in general the quality was good, with a high percent of killers, there were many of the feeder type. Some of these purchased for Kansas wheat had to move into other channels at a reduced price.

A few comments about Kentucky sheep production may give you a greater appreciation of the part range sheep can play in farm State sheep production. In late pre-war years, Kentucky, which is less than half the size of any range State except Washington, marketed about a million lambs annually. In common with other States, numbers are now down; but, relatively, the decline is much less than for the country as a whole. According to U.S.D.A. estimates, the State raised 731,000 lambs last year, which was an increase of 27,000 over 1947, but 174,000 less than the 1938-1947 ten-year average. The number of lambs raised per hundred ewes was 113, compared to a national average of 89.5 and a farm State average of 101. These lambs were finished on pasture, as is the normal practice in Kentucky, and as usual about 70 percent of them were marketed in spring and early summer.

Kentucky sheep production had its principal development between the wars—a period in which our flock owners switched to western ewes. Ewes from the mountain areas of eastern Kentucky and Tennessee on which they had formerly depended had all but disappeared. Farmers tried producing their own, but this did not work out. It usually meant the saving of the "tail-end" ewe lambs which did not make satisfactory breeding ewes.

In an effort to find a plan that would save the State's dying sheep industry, several trips were made abroad, including one to Australia and New Zealand. It was in New Zealand that we found a lamb production set-up which, with some minor changes, appeared to be suitable to our conditions and purposes.

In determining the type of western ewes that would fit best in our lamb production program, ewes of many types from various sections of the range country were tried. The result was that most farmers favored the blackface types, which they have bred to compact, low-set rams, mostly of the Southdown breed.

In a 15-year period, 1926-1940, after this program got underway, the number of lambs marketed from Kentucky was practically doubled, the weight per

lamb was increased nearly 10 pounds, and the quality greatly improved.

For many years ewes for the Kentucky trade were purchased in the West only as yearlings. More recently—in fact, about 17 years now—they have been brought in as lambs also. While these ewes and lambs have been obtained from various areas, Montana has supplied more of them than any other State, about 1,600,000 head.

It appears that the lamb plan in which blackface lambs are purchased for shipment to Kentucky in the fall and roughed through on pasture with

men are partial to the blackface ewes because, when bred to Southdown rams, they produce lambs of a type the trade has learned to associate with Kentucky, such ewes are not necessarily best for all conditions and purposes. Various types of range ewes, cross-breds and ewes strong in fine-wool blood, have certain qualities which endear them to farm State lamb producers. Most of these types, in fact, are hardier, longer-lived and earlier breeders than the blackfaces and some of them are just as prolific. However, their lambs are a little slower finishing



Typical mature western ewes found on most Kentucky farms.

Photo by R. C. Miller

a little hay for sale to lamb producers as yearlings the next summer will be the plan that we'll need to follow for some years at least. It may be that this will be the principal means of getting ewes of the blackface type for our lamb production program.

These lambs are usually carried through by farmers who have no other sheep enterprise and are handled mainly in flocks of several hundred to a thousand head, in some instances, more. As previously mentioned, these lambs are of a type not needed in maintaining or rebuilding range flocks, and it appears that there will be a fairly good supply of such lambs at least until the farm States begin taking them in much larger numbers. One middle western dealer at this convention told me yesterday that his company handled about 150,000 such ewe lambs last year which went to the feed lots.

Even though most Kentucky sheep-

and are not quite so compact and low-set as lambs out of the blackface ewes. Local conditions as to seasons, time of breeding and markets, together with the likes and dislikes of the individual farmer, are some of the factors that determine the kind of ewe to buy.

In States north of Kentucky white-face types are more numerous than western blackfaces. This, I believe, is also true of Missouri on the West. However, in the southern parts of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, the demand now is mainly for blackfaces, and this is the case in Tennessee, Virginia and North Carolina.

While under the Kentucky system of lamb production, most sheepmen sell all their ewe lambs as "fats" and make replacements, when needed, with yearling ewes, some Kentucky farmers and many in other States maintain flock numbers by holding back ewe lambs for the purpose. For such a plan, ewes



strong in fine-wool blood are most suitable. Such ewes, when bred to Hampshire or Suffolk rams produce ewes similar to the blackface types obtained from the West. Some farmers who produce their own ewes prefer Dorset rams on fine-wool ewes. This cross gives a highly prolific, early breeding and heavy milking ewe, ideal for early lamb production. In a five-year test at the Kentucky Station before the war, ewes sired by Dorset rams and out of Texas fine-wool ewes raised an average of 1.7 lambs per ewe.

In four trips west since the war, I visited all range States except Arizona, which was also on my schedule but which unfortunately, I was unable to make. On two of these trips, it was my good fortune to visit several representative ranches—not just the big outfits, but some of the small ones as well. I had a look-in on the sheep work at several of your experimental stations, attended some of your ram sales, shows and conventions, talked with commission agents and dealers, packer buyers and processors and with bankers, production credit officials and others who finance range livestock operations.

Through the fine cooperation of your Association and its State units, I was able to make the best possible contacts with a minimum of time and effort. While locating several new sources of blackface lambs, which, after all, was the primary purpose of my visits, I observed many changes in range sheep production that had occurred subsequent to earlier trips years ago. These observations helped me to adjust my thinking concerning western sheep production in several respects.

However, I am not posing as an authority on range sheep production and, of course, will not try to tell you how to run your business, as have certain eastern editors and commentators. I do, however, want to make a few comments about your associations, the National as well as the State units, and the services they are rendering to the sheep industry, not only in the West but indirectly to that of the farm States as well.

The organizational set-up of the National by States right down to the county level appealed to me. This grass-roots type of organization of sheepmen and for sheepmen evolved to meet common problems of the industry. It has acquired stature through the years as a result of experience, trial and

error, and has been of tremendous service to the industry, both east and west.

Without your Association constantly in there fighting, and often against great odds, we can only speculate as to what we would have today in the way of a sheep business. On the other hand, failure to have a strong industry-wide organization may have cost us severely during the war and also since the war. The industry was not in a position to present a united front when the food and fiber programs were set-up, and suffered thereby. The same applies as to legislation for benefit to the industry.

Services the National Wool Growers Association has rendered the industry in connection with lamb and wool production and with legislative matters are widely recognized. Not so well known is the attention your associations give to innumerable other matters of concern to the industry—the National mainly to problems of general application and the States more to those of local interest.

I was impressed with the close working relationship between your State associations and the land grant colleges. Should the National attempt to extend its organization into the farm States, where flocks are correspondingly small and sheep are only one, and usually a minor one, of several farm enterprises, a close relationship with the agricultural colleges, especially the Extension Service, will be essential to success. You will also need the cooperation and support of the general farm organizations such as the Farm Bureau and Grange.

The close interdependence between range and farm sheep production implies the need of unity of effort in solving problems of mutual interest. It appears that the logical step toward this end is to extend the National into the farm States. Aside from the advantages of affiliation with the National there can be no question as to the need of State-wide sheep associations in the farm States organized along much the same lines as the range State associations.

I can think of many ways in which such associations could render invaluable services. Take the dog problem for instance. In several of the States, including Kentucky, dog law enforcement has broken down and the situation is now critical. Strong State associations with full-time secretaries

should go a long way toward correcting this condition.

The extension of the National into the farm States will not be easy. It will require a lot of thinking and planning, labor and patience on the part of industry leaders in both the East and West. One obstacle is the lack of existing organizations that could be brought into the National as State units.

In only a few of the farm States are there industry-wide associations and it is doubtful if any of these would meet requirements of the National without reorganization. With the exception of wool cooperatives (marketing associations), Iowa has the only State sheep association with a full-time secretary, or fieldman as he is called in that State, and he is paid from funds appropriated by the State legislature.

In many of the States there are one or more organizations of breeders of purebred sheep maintained mainly for the purpose of holding annual ram sales, and in three States, Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia, there are so-called protective associations, on a county basis. These originated in Mercer County, Kentucky, and function mainly for the purpose of insuring sheep against losses by dogs.

In conclusion I want to call your attention to a matter that comes up almost invariably in meetings or conventions with farm State sheepmen where the National is mentioned. It is the name of your organization. It is rather confusing to farm State sheepmen many of whom think of it as a wool marketing association. What, if anything, could be done about changing the name to make it appeal more to sheepmen in the farm States is something that only you can decide or determine.

## **New Mexico Association Officers**

FLOYD W. LEE of San Mateo was re-elected president of the New Mexico Wool Growers Association for the 21st consecutive time at that organization's 46th annual meeting. J. P. White, Jr. of Roswell, Bruce Barnard of Shiprock and Manuel Otero of Albuquerque are the vice presidents, and Miss Isabel Benson is secretary. Albuquerque was the site of the convention and February 8-9, the dates.



PLACE YOUR LAMB ON MARKING BOARD IN CUSTOMARY POSITION. Grab tail with the left hand, thumb just below the flesh on under side, and HOLD FIRMLY TILL OPERATION IS OVER.



Twist hand to left, which also turns tail so its top is now up with a twist in it.

## How To Sever a Lamb's Tail Without Loss of Blood

Pioneered by George Stover of Weiser, Idaho, and perfected by Alan Wilson of Emmett, Idaho, the method of docking lambs pictured here, writes Robert M. Naylor, also of Emmett, will have many followers this spring in southwestern Idaho. There'll be about a hundred thousand lambs docked this way, he says, including those of the Highland Livestock and Land Company, which he and his wife, Jessie Little Naylor, operate.



Use a half dull knife at about a 45 degree angle, which is necessary to get a square cut. CUT TO THE VEIN AND NOT THROUGH IT—you'll find joint nine-tenths of the time.



Grab tail stump firmly by right forefinger and thumb. Give an upward motion, which breaks a joint if you did not cut through one.



Turn to left with your left hand. Now you pull from where you stand. Tail is severed while you wait and lamb is ready for the gate.

# The American Society of Range Management

A Report of Its Second Annual Meeting

By Harold J. Burback

**THE** American Society of Range

Management concluded its second annual meeting, held at the Shirley-Savoy Hotel in Denver, Colorado, January 24 to 26 inclusive. The program dealt with many problems which are pertinent not only to the work of the range technicians and those handling range problems on a professional basis but to stockmen and range users as well.

It was indeed unfortunate that only an approximate 100 of the national membership of 750 were able to attend the sessions. Many of the members from the Western States, particularly the agency members cooperating in the relief of the livestock "snowed-in" in Utah, Nevada, Colorado, and Wyoming, were unable to attend as their services were needed badly in relief work.

Range reseeding and an allied subject, Control of Noxious Range Plants, were the all-important and timely topics that consumed a day and a half of the three-day session. Among papers of general interest were "The Place of Reseeding in a Range Management Program," by Fred Kennedy, Assistant Regional Forester, U. S. Forest Service, Portland, Oregon; "Reseeding the Range by Airplane," by J. R. Killough, Range Conservationist, Bureau of Land Management, Lander, Wyoming; "The Management of Reseeded Ranges," by Waldo Frandsen, Acting Chief, Regional Range Division, Region 7, Soil Conservation Service, Portland, Oregon; "The Status of Research in Range Reseeding in the Intermountain Region," by Dr. George Stewart, Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Ogden, Utah.

Unfortunately, all of the very excellent discourses dealt primarily with the better types of range with better soil types and precipitation of 16 inches or more involved. There was little assistance given for the rehabilitation of our desert ranges of lesser precipitation but where the vast acreages are directly in need of improvement. Apparently, successful application of reseeding technique is very much in the experimental stage.

A paper on "Machinery for Range

Reseeding on Wild Lands," together with illustrated movies, by Avon Denham, Range Conservationist, U. S. Forest Service, San Francisco, California, was well timed. Equipment that has proved successful on farms has been found to be ill adapted to the rough and rugged terrain usually found on range lands. Heretofore, the demand for specially constructed equipment capable of withstanding the rigors of rangeland plowing, disking, or drilling has been too small to encourage equipment manufacturers to develop the sturdier type. Governmental and State agencies, acting independently, have expended a great deal of effort to develop on a purely experimental basis heavy reseeding equipment and by trial and error are developing machinery of sufficient sturdiness with the assistance and cooperation of farm machinery manufacturers.

An outgrowth of the discussion was a meeting of all agencies interested in reseeding to "pool" their knowledge and experience in equipment, and make known their requirements. Thus, would be eliminated much duplication of effort and money, and greatly expedite the development and manufacture of equipment to meet the needs of all, and at a cost far less than on an individual unit basis.

Mr. A. L. White, Consumer Service Department, Northrup, King & Company, Berkeley, California, presented a most interesting discourse on "The Role of the Seedsman in Reseeding Range Lands." The large seed companies are definitely interested in supplying the kind and quality of range seeds desired and are willing and anxious to assist in developing range species to meet area needs. The ensuing discussion brought out the necessity of standardizing germination tests at the various seed laboratories. At the present time, there seems to be a wide variation in results between laboratories due primarily to lack of proper equipment and standardization of methods. The seed companies could be of tremendous help in standardizing germination and purity tests and the equipment used in the process.

Of considerable interest was a paper presented by C. A. Friedrich of the Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Missoula, Montana. This paper was entitled "Comparison of Seasonal Development of Promising Forage Species for Reseeding Montana Ranges." While the accompanying chart was based on climatic and soil conditions in Montana, yet it is fair to assume the same relative results would be obtained in most of our Western States. Those interested in choosing species for specific purposes and to meet certain pasture conditions should find the chart quite informative. (Fig. 1, page 18)

All of the papers were not presented by range technicians. Two of those of general interest were by stockmen-members. Mr. Dan Fulton, a rancher from Ismay, Montana, presented the stockman's slant on range tenure. Mr. Bruce Orcutt, another rancher from Miles City, Montana, and also a member, offered some excellent "down to earth" comments in his observations, entitled "Range Management at Home." By infusing the stockmen's and range users' experiences into more scientific work of the colleges, experiment stations, and State and Governmental agencies, there is every assurance of a well-balanced Society.

Unfortunately, there are not sufficient stockmen-members, primarily because of the comparative newness of the organization and lack of appreciation by range users of the advantages of membership. Only in recent years has Range Management been considered as a science separate and apart from timber culture and allied woodland activities. As the need for some organization to foster and encourage practical range management and research became more apparent, a group of well-known range technicians, spearheaded by Joseph F. Pechanec of the U. S. Forest Service, Portland, Oregon, initiated the first move in the organization of the American Society of Range Management.

As quoted from Mr. Pechanec's article in Volume 1, Number 1, of the Journal of Range Management, official



publication of the Society, the objectives are:

1. Recognition of range management and its application as a profession.
2. Liberal membership requirements to permit professional workers with highly varied basic training to become full members with an equal voice in society affairs.
3. The publication of a journal devoted to the subject of range and pasture which would provide a medium for exchange of new developments, ideas, and for the discussion of policies.

4. Provision for meetings where range men can assemble yearly for exchange of ideas and development of unity in procedures for managing range lands.

Countless individuals in many different agencies or groups and with highly varied basic training are engaged in range and grassland work. On these workers fall the major responsibility of pointing the way toward the greatest productivity and fullest utilization of the forage resource consistent with maintenance of soil and forage. Moreover, these workers are responsible for the scientific validity of the work.

Mr. Pechanec was the first president of the Society.

Article III of the Society's constitution states as to membership:

Section. Persons shall be eligible for membership who are interested in or engaged in practicing range or pasture management or animal husbandry; administering grazing lands; or teaching, or conducting research, or engaged in extension activities in range or pasture management or related subjects.

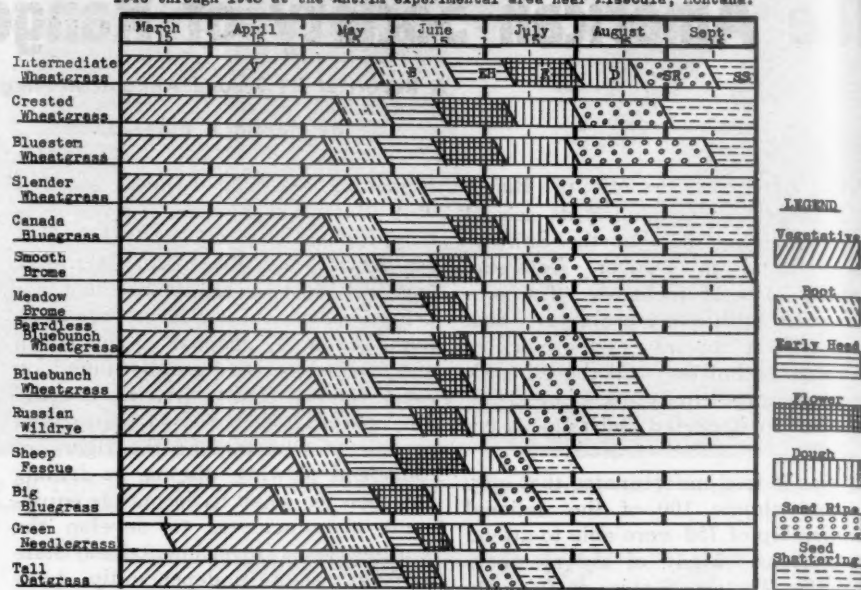
The first meeting of the new Society was held in Salt Lake City in January, 1948, and got off to a flying and enthusiastic start.

Membership was purposely defined to include range users—stockmen, ranchers, fish and game workers, etc. Thus was assured a practical, "down to earth" society where technicians and range users alike could pool their knowledge of range use and range research. The second annual meeting, just concluded in Denver, Colorado, indicated an amazing growth within the past year. The 481 charter members as of January 1, 1948, have been augmented by 300 within the past year. It is truly an "All American" Society with a widespread membership as follows:

Texas	83	Nevada	18
Montana	73	Nebraska	13
California	63	Oklahoma	12
Wyoming	58	Kansas	11
Colorado	56	Washington DC	22
Idaho	44	Hawaii	2
Oregon	43	Canada	3
Arizona	42	Venezuela	1
New Mexico	35	Alaska	1
Washington	22		

Recently elected officers for the ensuing year:

Fig. 1. Comparison of seasonal plant development by dates and growth stages of 14 promising grasses for reseeding Montana range lands. Based on observations 1946 through 1948 at the Antrim experimental area near Missoula, Montana.



USDA Forest Service, NRM For. & Range Expt. Station, Missoula, Montana

President—Frederic G. Renner, Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D. C.

Vice President—David A. Savage, U. S. Southern Great Plains Field Station, Woodward, Oklahoma.

Treasurer—Melvin A. Morris—Forestry School, Montana State University, Missoula, Montana.

Membership fee in the Society is five dollars per annum, which includes a subscription to the *Journal*. The quarterly copies of the *Journal* are well worth the membership fee. There is sufficient variety of subject matter to appeal to operator and technician alike.

Eventually, each State will have its local section whose function shall be the encouragement of members to prepare and discuss papers, to confer and suggest as to matters of Society policy, to study local range and pasture conservation and management problems, to cooperate with other local sections, and other local organizations in matters of common interest, etc. So far, Wyoming is the only State having a local section. Such an organization should prove a common meeting ground for discussions of mutual interest for all those interested in a common range problem.

Ranchers and stockmen the country over are becoming increasingly aware of the value of range management. The value of their joining the

American Society of Range Management is two-fold:

First, to glean from those who have made a profession of range research and scientific range management the latest developments in the technique; second, to give to the range technicians the practical, "down to earth" touch so essential to worthwhile and progressive advancement in the science. Those wishing to join the Society may contact Mr. Melvin A. Morris, in care of the Forestry School, Montana State University, Missoula, Montana. He will be glad to forward membership application blanks and any other data desired. The next annual meeting will be held in San Antonio, Texas, probably in January, 1950.

## National Forest Funds Returned to States

THE 25 percent of the cash receipts from operations of the National Forest Service which is returned to the States for distribution among the counties in which the forests are located, amounted to approximately 6 million dollars for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1948. The amounts received in Western States, as reported by the Forest Service on February 23rd, are set up in the following table:

The National Wool Grower

State	Number of Counties Sharing	Amounts Received from National Forests 1948
Arizona	13	\$228,687.21
California	38	560,923.92
Colorado	42	215,118.52
Idaho	34	327,783.08
Montana	35	207,059.72
Nevada	14	34,297.86
New Mexico	20	112,436.43
Oregon	31	*1,696,306.95
South Dakota	6	70,758.25
Texas	11	103,403.18
Utah	29	102,296.68
Washington	27	834,719.78
Wyoming	18	117,074.09
Total	318	4,610,865.67

\*The exact figure for Oregon has not been determined, but it is expected that the amount will be some less than this.

## The Road To Socialism

ATTENTION is called to the fact that Government officials now are seeking to obtain a huge rebate from American railroads on the ground that it paid unreasonably high rates for transportation of war materials during the recent misunderstanding between this country and Germany and Japan. The rebate asked is reported to exceed two billion dollars, enough money to bankrupt many railroads in America.

As we understand it, the Government's charges are based first, on the assumption that since the Government shipped such enormous amounts of freight, it was entitled to less than regular rates and, second, that all the railroads should have granted it "land grant rates."

The first charge would seem to have no standing, as the Interstate Commerce Commission long since established the principle that a single carload was entitled to as low a rate as 100 cars. In fact, in the old days the railroads granted rebates to the larger shippers, and in many cases were fined for doing so. This practice was one of the causes for establishing the Commission. The Government, therefore, would not be entitled to any lower rate than any other shipper.

As to the so-called "land grant rates," the less said about them, the better. For the past 50 years, such rates have simply been a method by which the Government beat the railroads out of 50 percent of its freight bill, and unloaded the debt on private shippers.

Back in the early days of railroad building, in order to get the country developed, the Government agreed to make grants of land to private capitalists to help finance the construction of new railroads. In return for these grants such railroads agreed to haul government freight at 50 percent of the regular rate. These grants were made to roads not just in the West, but to certain roads in the East and South, and some of them were made before the Civil War. The result was that a road that did not have a land grant got little Government business, unless it also granted a 50 percent rate.

At the time these grants were made, they were not a matter of serious concern, for the Government then did but little shipping. As time passed, the Government took over more and more of the private business of the Nation and became entangled in new wars, and it became the chief shipper on the American railroad. As its goods moved at half rates, the loss on such shipments was made up by higher and higher rates on private shipments. The value of these land grant lands was, in many cases, exactly nothing. Most of such lands had only a nuisance value. Of course, some of these lands contained oil and timber, and were valuable. The chief value of these grants was that this land passed into private hands, and in that way developed the West. Congress should abolish the land grant rate without debate.

Here, four years after the close of the war, the Government comes forward with a claim that is absurd on the face of it and, if allowed, would result in a 25 percent advance in all freight rates or general railroad receivership.

The railroads might well charge the Government more on their shipments, as it certainly cost more for the special service it demands. The railroads did a fine job during the war. Without their efficient service the fight might well have been lost. They now have troubles enough without having to defend trumped-up political charges.

S. W. McClure

## 34th NATIONAL RAM SALE

Time: August 22-23, 1949

Place: Union Stock Yards

North Salt Lake, Utah

## Meat Institute's New Program

IN the late spring and early summer, the American Meat Institute will launch a large public relations advertising program. The significance of all factors in the meat industry—the farmer, the meat packer and the meat retailer—will provide the background for the program.

"It will describe," says the Meat Institute, "the importance of animal agriculture in conserving and building the Nation's soil. It will endeavor to build a better appreciation for the farmer, whose judgment and foresight make it possible for us to have meat on our tables, one, two, or three years after he decides to raise some meat animals. The program will tell about the efficiency of the meat packer and how the utilization of by-products lowers the cost of meat. And it will recognize the versatility of the retailer, who is meat cutter, display artist, business man and salesman, all rolled into one."

Objective of the program is to build up a better understanding and appreciation of the general public of the process that lies behind the leg of lamb, the steak or the pork chops which make our diet interesting and nutritious, and thereby counteract some of the criticism that has been lodged against the various parts of the meat industry.

Media to be used in this public relations advertising program include the Saturday Evening Post, Life Magazine, daily newspapers, and commercial announcements on the Fred Waring Show. Posters will also be available for use by agricultural organizations, meat packing companies participating in the program, and retail stores, and booklets are being especially prepared for producers, plant employees and retailers.

"No other industry," the Institute asserts, "has so many people intimately allied with it. Counting producers, packing plant employees and stockholders and retailers and their families, from 20 to 25 million people receive all or part of their support directly from the meat industry. We intend, therefore, to present the industry in terms of what it means to people generally and to the soil and the Nation."

We'll all be interested in watching for these advertisements.



# Ounce of Prevention...

Cowboys of just a few years ago would have been puzzled by the illustration at the right. But livestock producers today see it as a picture of a routine job... vaccination of a calf to help keep him healthy.

Livestock producers and meat packers have a common goal: to supply America with all the wholesome, nutritious meat this nation of ours needs. And so at every step of the way—from range, farm and feed lot to the tables of consumers—precautions are taken to produce meat of the best possible quality... meat that will receive the familiar round purple stamp "U. S. Inspected & Passed." This purple circle, found on every important cut supplied by federally inspected packers, is the housewife's guarantee of good, wholesome meat.

Growing animals are subject to various ailments. Meat, milk, wool and other valuable by-products... enough to supply a good-sized nation... are lost on farms and ranches each year. Add to this the lost grain and grass fed to animals which never live to maturity, or fed to unthrifty livestock that gain slowly. Total dollar losses run into billions.

Much has been done toward reducing these losses. New drugs and chemicals, such as the sulfas, penicillin and phenothiazine, are conquering livestock ailments, pests and parasites. But some of these causes of reduced production and profit are stubborn. To lick them will take increased knowledge, cooperation among neighbors and a constant watch for danger signs. But the increased earnings which can result from these efforts make them more than worth while. Production of healthy livestock is the only way to keep the markets for the meat you produce supplied and expanding. In solving your problems your local, state and federal veterinarians are good men to turn to for help.



**Soda Bill Sez:**

*It's a good idea to save tough problems for a brainy day. Dirt farmers and desk farmers both get calluses—but in different places.*

## OUR CITY COUSIN



April rain and April flood  
Make City Cousin a stick-in-the-mud!



## Price Balances Supply and Demand



In the first six weeks of the year livestock and meat prices have dropped with great rapidity. In

my 24 years with Swift & Company I have never seen so violent a drop. On the other hand, I have never seen prices start down from so high a level. It is the law of supply and demand at work.

When the wholesale prices of meat—the amount meat packers can get for it—go down, it means lower prices for livestock. It always has been and always will be that way. When demand for meat increases, we are able to pay producers more for their livestock. The prices Swift & Company, and the other 26,000 meat packers and commercial slaughterers, pay for livestock are governed by what they can get for the total available supply of meat and the by-products. As in the past, so in the future, livestock prices will result entirely from the balance between supply and demand.

**Let's Be For Things** Seems to me that most of us spend too much time and blood-pressure being *against* things. Let's be *for* things. Let's be for freedom of choice and initiative. Let's be for a system which allows a man to choose freely his own work, to make his own opportunities, to plan his own production. Which lets him decide where and how he lives; how he spends or invests his earnings. Let's be for *our country*, where a man's the boss of his own time, his own thoughts and his own political and religious beliefs. Let's take a good look at the rest of the world, then reverently thank God, and be *for* the United States.

Hope you have a prosperous summer, and we'll be looking forward to being with you again. Meanwhile, if you're in Chicago, plan to visit us at Swift & Company. All of us in the Agricultural Research Department cordially invite you to drop in for a chat. *We'll be looking for you!*

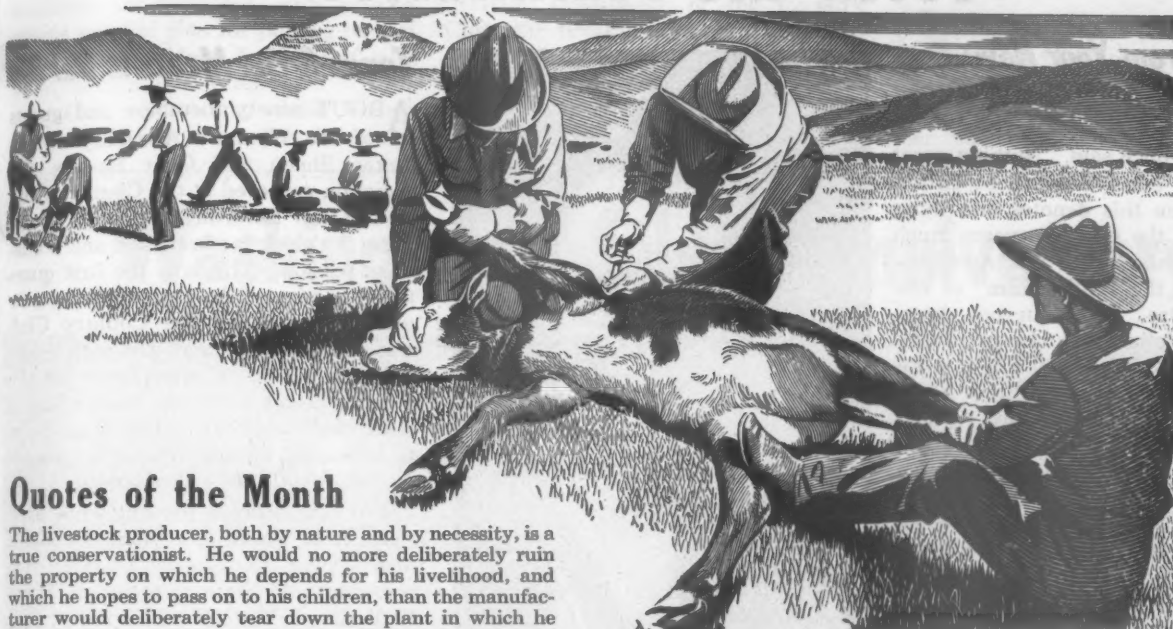
**F.M. Simpson,**

Agricultural Research Dept.

**Swift & Company** UNION STOCK YARDS  
CHICAGO 9, ILLINOIS

The National Wool Growers Association





## Quotes of the Month

The livestock producer, both by nature and by necessity, is a true conservationist. He would no more deliberately ruin the property on which he depends for his livelihood, and which he hopes to pass on to his children, than the manufacturer would deliberately tear down the plant in which he operates.

A. A. SMITH, President  
American National Livestock Assoc.

Livestock provide one-third of all the food energy in the American diet, and 80 per cent of all the land used to produce the nation's food supply is devoted to livestock production. That is the story of a big business, vital to all Americans.

CHARLES A. BURMEISTER,  
Production & Marketing Administration—USDA

Large size is not bad in itself . . . on the contrary, it is sometimes needed if full advantage is to be taken of the economics of large scale production and distribution. The enterprises engaged in meeting the varied wants of the American people are enormously diverse . . . There are neighborhoods which can support big stores and other neighborhoods which can scarcely support a little one . . . The capital required to establish a fairly big chain of groceries or baseball teams would not suffice to start a small steel mill . . . The nation has need of small, middle-sized and large business to provide the people with the things they want in the way they want them.

Chicago Tribune



Alexander Johnston

## Saving More Lambs

By Alexander Johnston, Wool Specialist  
University of Wyoming, Laramie

Because every lamb grown to market maturity will now bring from \$15 to \$20, lamb mortality has become a source of increasing loss. Lambing practices reflect this. Open range lambing is decreasing. Pasture lambing is increasing in favor. Bands of from 500 to 1500 ewes are run in fenced separate meadow pasture. If spring storms are prevalent, shelter sheds are provided. The ewes lamb by themselves with little assistance.

Shed lambing is popular, especially when July or August fat lambs are desired. The lambing band is kept in a feed corral or small pasture adjacent to a lambing shed. When a ewe lambs, she and her "green" lamb are taken into the shed to an individual pen or "jug." After a day in the "jug," they are put in a larger pen with others. Gradually, over a period of 3 to 10 days, larger and larger units are merged. From the shed these bunches go out to green pastures or into feed yards until the pasture grows. Under this system of almost complete control, a very high percentage of lambs is saved.

The paddock system of lambing also is receiving favorable attention. Ewes, after they lamb, are transported from the range to the lambing shed by trailer. After a day or two in the shed, a small bunch is made up and turned into a small pasture with a shelter shed. In a day or two, several small bunches are merged and go into a larger pasture. This is repeated until at the end of two weeks or so, the summer bands are assembled.

### Martha Logan's Recipe for

#### DELUXE CORNED BEEF HASH PATTIES



Yield: 4 Servings

- 1 can corned beef hash
- 2 tablespoons shortening
- ½ cup thinly sliced onion
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 No. 2 can peas (2½ cups)
- ¾ teaspoon salt

Melt 1 tablespoon shortening in a frying pan and brown onions lightly. Sprinkle flour over onions and combine thoroughly. Drain juice from peas (approximately 1 cup). Add salt and juice from peas to onions and flour. Cook until sauce has thickened. Add ½ cup peas, stirring gently. Open can of hash at both ends. Push hash out on a board. Slice in four portions. Brown in 1 tablespoon shortening in a frying pan. Serve Corned Beef Hash Patties with vegetable sauce.

• • NUTRITION IS OUR BUSINESS — AND YOURS • •

Right Eating Adds Life to Your Years — and Years to Your Life

# With the Auxiliaries

## A Word from Your New President

EMERSON once said, "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm." To me this denotes one thing sure: During the past two years much has been "achieved" in our Auxiliary work due to the "enthusiasm" of our own dear "Ora." As your new president, I am delighted to be privileged to pay tribute to our Junior Past National President, Mrs. Delbert Chipman, who spread "enthusiasm" most widely throughout the nine States included in our organization, two of which were born and nurtured during "Mother" Chipman's regime. Most of us are well aware of her achievements during her two years as our president. No job seemed too large for her; no obstacle too great. I was quite close to Mrs. Chipman during her time as our leader and feel part of the tribute to her success must be paid to her family for their loyal support. Her husband, Delbert Chipman, was ever ready, standing by with a helpful hand, praising her and her Auxiliary in their efforts.

I realize I stepped into a very well-beaten path. I can never hope to keep the path in such condition, but I want to thank the Auxiliary for the splendid executive board it has elected to help me and know that my success depends on the support of the many fine women whom I am proud to recognize as our "Members." Our "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest has given us something of which to be very proud. We are organized to support the men of our industry in promoting the further use of its products. As your humble president, may I say, "Come on ladies, we are all supporting the same industry, let us all get in the harness, pull evenly together, keep in unison and harmony, rejoice together in our efforts, and, above all things, be ever happy in putting over any program we may be called upon to support this coming year."

The names and addresses of your newly elected officers are as follows: President: Mrs. Clell Lung, 206 North



Mrs. Clell Lung, National Auxiliary President

Naches Avenue, Yakima, Washington.

1st Vice-President: Mrs. John Will Vance, Coleman, Texas.

2nd Vice-President: Mrs. J. T. Murdock, Heber City, Utah.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Leonard Longmire, Selah, Washington.

Historian: Mrs. Michael F. Hayes, Union Stock Yards, Denver, Colorado.

To which list I have added the following appointments:

Corresponding Secretary: Mrs. James Fletcher, Selah, Washington.

Parliamentarian: Mrs. A. S. Boyd, Baker, Oregon.

Press Correspondent: Mrs. Emory Smith, 1835 Yalecrest Avenue, Salt Lake City, Utah.

I suggest that each State keep its National Press Correspondent advised of its new ideas and activities. Our page in the National Magazine is generously appropriated for our use and a medium through which much benefit can be derived if we will just take advantage of a good thing.

Mrs. Clell Lung, President

## Texas Group Meets in Del Rio

ABOUT ninety members and guests of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association gathered at the Country Club in Del Rio Saturday morning, March 11, at 9 o'clock for breakfast and a business session. This was the first quarterly meeting of the year, with the new officers presiding. The Country Club was made festive and gay with many spring flowers. Centerpieces for the quartet tables were toy trucks loaded with small wool bags which turned out to be sachet favors. The arrangement on the mantle was also unique.

The new officers present were Mrs. Felix Real, Jr. of Kerrville, president; Mrs. Dolph Briscoe of Uvalde, vice president and State director of "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest; and Mrs. R. P. Smith of Comfort, secretary.

Mrs. Edward Jarrett, in her usual pleasing manner, gave the address of welcome.

A number of interesting reports were given. The secretary reported the organization now has 255 members. Mrs. Worth Evans reported on the National Meeting in San Antonio, February 1 to 4. Mrs. Felix Real, Jr. gave a report of progress at Hill Country Weaving Center and showed samples of rugs, mohair material for ties and other hand-woven products. Mrs. Dolph Briscoe told of plans for the "Make It Yourself with Wool" contest. Texas hopes to be able to have a contest of its own of garments made of mohair.

Russell Martin, representing Collins and Aikman, showed samples of mohair material with different percentages of wool. The favorite seemed to be a 50-50 material for suits. These materials are something new in production and are in somewhat of an experimental stage, but bid fair to be very popular. A number of men attending the men's meeting ordered suits made of the 50-50 material. When mohair materials come into production in quantity for suits, drapery, and upholstering fabrics, it is hoped that the draggy mohair market will show an upward trend.

Mohair must be combined with another fiber. It is hoped that in time

it may be combined with cotton to make a cool lightweight material for summer wear in southern climates.

The main topic of discussion in the executive meeting and with private groups was the plan for putting on and financing the "Make It Yourself with Wool" contest in the fall.

Several outstanding social events were planned for the entertainment of

the visitors by the Del Rio group with their usual thoroughness.

The first was the cocktail party Friday evening which was held in the friendly atmosphere of the Country Club; the breakfast for the ladies Saturday morning; and a barbeque for all, Saturday noon at the beautiful San Felipe Country Club. Each was well planned and carried out.

Due to good winter rains the Del Rio country is in excellent condition, lambing is about finished, and marking is in progress.

The next quarterly meeting will be in Sonora in June.

The membership goal of the new president is 500 members. Let us help her reach it.

## Washington's Silver Anniversary



At the 25th anniversary luncheon of the Women's Auxiliary to the Washington Wool Growers Association, held in the Elizabethan Room of the Davenport Hotel, Spokane, Washington, on January 18, 1949.

**T**HE members of the Women's Auxiliary to the Washington Wool Growers were warmed by the hospitality of Spokane and the Davenport Hotel when we met for our 25th annual meeting in Spokane on January 17 and 18.

This being our silver anniversary,\* our program committee presented us with programs in the auxiliary colors, pink and white, and printed in silver letters. Registration was started promptly at 9 o'clock on Monday morning, the 17th, so that all business could be transacted before noon.

A memorial for Mrs. James Morrow, recently deceased, was given by Mrs.

W. A. Roberts, at which time she presented a basket of flowers in memory of all members who have passed on.

A display of woolen articles and novelty suggestions was enjoyed throughout the convention.

A no-hostess luncheon was held in the Isabella Room—a musical luncheon provided by the Davenport Hotel for its guests which was most favorably received.

On Tuesday our special guests were introduced, outstanding among them being our National President, Mrs. Delbert Chipman, who spoke to us. Her enthusiasm and wisdom inspired us, and we brought away with us a firm determination to become better wives and helpmates. One of her quotations

that will long be remembered is, "Education is learning to like to do the things you have to do."

State activities, centered mainly around the Yakima fair, were discussed. The auxiliary sponsored a hamburger stand and a wool booth at the five-day fair in 1948. Four thousand cups of coffee, 1320 pieces of pie and 5360 hamburgers were sold by the women. Money was used for advertising and wool promotion, according to Mrs. Leonard Longmire, Yakima, chairman.

Mrs. H. S. Roberts, Yakima, was in charge of a wool booth in the horticultural building. Unusual displays, including a story of wool from sheep to fabric, were on exhibit. Women were on duty to answer questions directed to

\*Washington women organized the first auxiliary to a sheepmen's organization.



them about the woolen market and newest styles in wool.

Another major project of the auxiliary was the style show and sewing contest sponsored in cooperation with 4-H clubs throughout the State. First prizes went to two girls, Barbara Jean Fisher of Orchard and Sue Thipps of Seattle, who represented the State in the national finals. Mrs. W. A. Roberts of Yakima was general chairman of the style show.

Other featured speakers were Miss Opal Schrock from the Crescent Store, who spoke on fabrics and their adaptability to current styles, and Miss Gail Gunn from the Bon Marche, who spoke on style-trends, both for the matron and her teen-age daughter. These two young ladies are gifted speakers and their talks were truly appreciated.

The Yakima Chapter entertained us

at luncheon in the Elizabethan Room, where the "silver theme" was again in prominence. Napkins with silver inscription and favors of wool needle-cases trimmed with silver sequins were given to all guests. A program was arranged by the hostess chapter, including the presentation of past president pins to all of our past presidents, by our National President, Mrs. Delbert Chipman. Recipients were: Mrs. Edmund Myer, Ritzville; Mrs. W. A. Roberts, Mrs. H. F. Roberts, Mrs. Leonard Longmire and Mrs. Clell Lung, all of Yakima, and Mrs. Victor Lesamiz, Oroville.

The convention climaxed in a banquet and program under the auspices of the Washington Wool Growers Association. This was followed by a dance. Spokane and the Davenport Hotel were voted wonderful hosts.

Reinhardt, Bountiful, attending Davis County High School; Majorie Webster, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carson U. Webster, and a student of the Branch Agricultural College, Cedar City.

Girls throughout the State were featured in the show wearing woolen coats, dresses and suits of their own creation and some of their own design. Miss Nina Nix, fashion coordinator for the Simplicity Pattern Company, New York City, served as narrator.

Mrs. Emory C. Smith, president of the State Auxiliary, presided at the show, Mrs. Delbert Chipman, president of the National Auxiliary presented certificates of merit to all the participants, and Mr. Moroni A. Smith, pioneer sheepman of Utah, presented the six winners with their prizes.

All the contestants and several of the State Auxiliary officers and local chapter presidents and chaperones of the girls were guests of Sears, Roebuck at a breakfast. Mr. Ebenezer Kirkham accompanied on a Marimbaphone led the group in singing and Mrs. Gardner played several solos on the Marimbaphone.

The girls were also guests at a theater party of Mr. C. Clair Woods, manager of the Center Theater, the evening prior to the contest finals.

The contestants staged an additional showing of their woolen costumes for the public in the tea room of Z. C. M. I. store during lunch hour.

## Utah's Style Show

APPROXIMATELY 350 persons attended the "Make it Yourself-With-Wool" sewing contest finals for the State of Utah the evening of January 25, 1949 in the Lafayette Room of the Hotel Utah.

Six winners out of approximately 80 entrants were selected to represent the organization at the national contest in San Antonio, Texas.

Winners were: Helen Bergstedt, 17, 1452 Ramona Avenue, Salt Lake City, student of East High School, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Bergstedt; Geneil Lindberg, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Lindberg, Tooele; June Okawa, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. K. Okawa, Layton; Adele Decker, 22, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Heber M. Decker, Cedar City and a student of the University of Utah; Maxine Reinhardt, 16, daughter of Mrs. Josephine



Left to right, June Okawa, Layton, first in senior coats; Helen Bergstedt, Salt Lake City, first in junior coats; Geneil Lindberg, Tooele, first in junior suits.



A contestant (above) on the runway at the style show of the Utah Auxiliary. Right, Maxine Reinhardt, Bountiful, first in junior dresses; Marjorie Webster, Cedar City, first in senior suits; and Adele Decker, Salt Lake City, first in senior dresses.



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# **MoorMan's**

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CUSTOM-MADE FOR SPECIFIC NEEDS**

# Wool Market Slow But Firm

SEVERAL disconcerting things have happened in the manufacturing side of the wool business within recent weeks, but the wool market remains firm.

As was reported last month, the American Woolen Company opened its fall lines at prices prevailing on its spring goods and it was expected that other firms would follow suit. However, on March 16th Metcalf Bros. and Company lowered their prices on fall worsteds 15 to 30 cents. But from what we can gather from trade bulletins there has been no stampede of other firms to follow the Metcalf lead. Other manufacturers have held firm.

This single reduction was made following the opening of bids on 18-ounce serge and wool velours for the Air Force. On the 4,000,000 yards of 18-ounce serge asked for, bids to cover 18,000,000 yards were received and the low bid was \$4.25 as against \$5.17 for this type of serge last July.

Then Moses Pendleton, president of the American Woolen Company, told stockholders of that firm, in their annual meeting, that for the first 2½ months of 1949 their volume of orders was considerably lower than for a like period in 1948.

These factors led to an erratic condition in the New York Exchange on wool tops and futures during the month. But the Boston wool market although quiet did not waver, which in-

dicates its great underlying strength: that of small supplies and scarcity.

On this point we quote from the Commercial Bulletin of March 26th.

In this market (Boston) the remark was made that nobody at present sees a definite slump in wool. It was felt that the cheap offerings accompanying hedge operations, including wools of various character, will not have a lasting effect on the market. The condition of bare stocks, or very small inventories at any rate, still looms as a serious element in the outlook and bullish on values.

We have hammered the point that domestic wools are inadequate in supply for even a small consumption; also that America has not been making the world market for wool in more than two years. Significant in the crucial situation of the moment here, is that London, at the opening of a new series on Thursday, ignored such things as the drastic weakness in New York futures and the unhealthy goods trade reports.

Total domestic production of shorn and pulled wools during 1948 is now estimated by the Department of Agriculture as 280,524,000 pounds—the smallest since 1923. Of this total 233,924,000 pounds was shorn wool and 46,600,000, pulled wool. The 1947 total production was set at 309,398,000 pounds of which 252,798,000 was shorn wool and 56,600,000, pulled wool.

And according to the Wool Digest of the Wool Bureau, Inc., for March 15th, the joint imports of apparel wools in the U. S. during 1948 total 189,400,000 pounds as against 236,200,000 pounds in 1947. These figures are on the clean content. If, say, you took

an average shrinkage of 60 percent, it would mean that around 473,500,000 pounds of grease apparel wool were imported last year. Combining the imports with domestic production gives 754,024,000 pounds. During 1948, the consumption of wool on a grease basis is "unofficially" estimated by the Commercial Bulletin (March 12, 1949) as 989,000,000 pounds. Therefore, it seems plausible to assume that inventories of wool at the beginning of 1949 could not have been very large. It is certain also that the 1949 domestic clip will be no larger, if indeed it is as large, as that for 1948, and U. S. buyers apparently are not yet very active in foreign markets. So even if consumption in 1949 falls under that of 1948, it will still be far above domestic wool production.

## C.C.C. Stockpile Wools

On February 28, 1949 the Commodity Credit Corporation reported the amount of net wool available for sale as 86,422,200 pounds of wool.

## At the Source of Production

Nothing much has been done in wool in western producing areas during recent weeks. Some mixed clips in Idaho are reported as contracted, in the third week of the month, at 46 to 50 cents in the grease, f.o.b. From 10 to 15 percent of these wools were said to grade



## Remember . . .

## WOOL PROMOTION

Please be sure to remind the firm or individual handling your wool clip to deduct the ten-cents-per-bag assessment for promoting your products: wool and mohair. (In States where membership cards are operative authorizing membership deductions from wool clips, this deduction includes the wool promotion contribution. If you have signed a card authorizing membership dues deductions from your wool clip, please remind the firm handling your wool to make this deduction).



fine and half blood; from 30 to 40 percent,  $\frac{3}{8}$ ; and from 50 to 55 percent quarter blood.

We have also heard of one sale of wool from 2,000 head of yearlings in the western part of Idaho at 55 cents, the latter part of March. The top figure during this contracting period in Idaho was 58 cents given for a clip in the eastern part of the State, which was said to be half-blood with a lot of fine wool included.

**HOUGHTON WOOL COMPANY**  
**TOP MAKERS**  
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**FARMERS - SHEEPMEN**

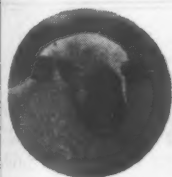
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Of course, quite a volume of western wools were signed up late in 1948 and early this year.

Growers of fine wool particularly know they have a very desirable product, and the Government Purchase Program is still available for all producers if they care to have their wools handled that way.

**Wool Promotion, A Solution**

One commentator in a leading eastern trade journal has suggested wool promotion as a remedy to the sluggish apparel market, and the Wool Bureau, Inc. (this agency, as reported in the March Wool Grower, is a combination of the American Wool Council and the International Wool Secretariat forces in this country whose function is the promotion of wool) is doing yeoman service in drawing all of the clothing trade into the national wool promotion plan.

After several preliminary meetings, representatives of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, Clothing Manufacturers of the U.S.A., and the National Association of Retail Clothiers and Furnishers met on March 30th and decided to spend \$25,000 to explore the possibilities of such a program.

F. E. Ackerman, chairman of the Executive Committee and W. Francis FitzGerald, president of the Wool Bureau, Inc., have been meeting with these groups and explaining how the wool promotion of the Wool Bureau will be carried on this year. [Wool growers make their contributions to this program by the 10-cents-per-bag (5 cents on the smaller bags used in Texas and New Mexico) deduction from their wool account. It will be well for growers to remind wool handlers to make this deduction.]

**Price Support For Mohair**  
**Refused**

THE U. S. Department of Agriculture announced on March 14 that the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation had refused the request of mohair producers to have Government price support extended to their commodity. This action was taken after a complete review of the present mohair situation in connection with the terms of existing legislation.

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No special legislation directs support of mohair prices as in the case of wool. Although existing authority for price support of non-basic agricultural commodities would permit support for mohair prices during the remainder of 1949, consideration was given to the relationship of the mohair situation to the conditions involved in the case of other commodities for which supports are in effect and those for which no supports have been established.

However, the Department is continuing to explore further possibilities of improving the mohair situation through research conducted under the Research and Marketing Act, and by other means.

—U.S.D.A. Release

# March Lamb Market

## Central Market Prices

**D**WINDLING receipts, the approach of the Easter season, considerable competition among buyers for good and choice woolled lambs and higher eastern dressed lamb prices, were all factors responsible for some March price records. Every week of the month saw further advances in fat lamb prices.

Receipts were light throughout the month with a decrease of approximately 43,000 head at the 12 principal markets the first week of March, compared to the same week a year ago, and a corresponding 65,000 head decrease the second week. Receipts the third week dropped to the smallest volume since last July.

A March 24th report states that according to trade gossip, between 60 and 70 percent of the lambs fed during the season in northern Colorado had already been marketed.

Good and choice fed woolled lambs sold during the first week of March mostly from \$25 to \$26.50. By the end of the fourth week, they were bringing from \$29 to \$30.75. Twenty-five carloads of good and choice woolled Colorado lambs weighing 93 to 110 pounds brought \$30 in Denver the fourth week of March. The top in Chicago and Omaha that week for high choice fed Colorados was \$30.75. Further advances the last few days of March brought the fed lamb market up to \$32.25 in Chicago (March 31), claimed to be an all-time record price for fed lambs. On March 30, spring lambs hit \$32.50 in Wichita, although the quantity marketed at this price was not reported.

Smaller receipts and heavy demand during the month even brought about a more lenient attitude toward lambs weighing 110 pounds and heavier.

Medium to good fed woolled lambs sold at various markets during the month largely from \$24 to \$28.50; common to medium kinds were marketed at \$19.50 to \$24.

High choice summer shorn lambs reached \$27.75 the second week of March and comparable fall shorn lambs brought \$26.75 to \$27 that week. Three decks of good and choice 100-pound shearing lambs at Omaha brought \$29

the fourth week of March, while good and choice 76- to 97-pound offerings ranged from \$26.50 to \$27.75.

Good and choice native and Dakota feeders sold on the South St. Paul market during the month largely from \$23 to \$25. Good and choice woolled feeders at Fort Worth sold during the month largely from \$22 to \$24.

Supply of slaughter ewes was also small during the month. Good and choice ewes sold the first week of March from \$11 to \$13, with a few at \$13.25 to \$13.50. By the fourth week of March this same class had risen to a price range of \$12.25 to \$14.25.

## Contracting and Country Purchases

A report from California for the week ending March 26th states that following a spurt in the contracting of spring lambs there a week or 10 days previous, trade again slowed up considerably. Sharply advancing prices on slaughter lambs all over the country and the asking of similar advances on lambs being contracted for future delivery caused buyers to move cautiously on lambs not ready for immediate or near term delivery.

Sales in the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys of spring lambs weighing 60 pounds and over at delivery time, ranged from \$26 to \$27.50, depending upon the estimated percentage of fat lambs in the bands and the approximate time of delivery. On some

of these contracts delivery will run up into May. A few loads of spring lambs for immediate and near time delivery were made upwards from \$28 with two loads going to a Bay Area packer late in the week at \$30.50. Contracts earlier in the month in both valleys were mostly from \$25 to \$27.

Shipments of old crop pastured lambs out of the Imperial Valley during the week totaled around 15,500 leaving about 35,000 still on pasture in that valley. Most of these are Texas and New Mexico lambs that are finishing late. Sales of old-crop lambs in the valley were made largely at \$26 but very few were of choice grade. Some spring lambs from the Imperial and Salt River Valleys sold at \$27, and two loads of good and choice Arizona spring lambs weighing around 88 pounds reached Los Angeles at \$28 delivered. Small lots of spring lambs from local areas around Los Angeles sold to small packers at \$29, but trade to those interests became inactive towards the close of the week as small packers were closing down operations in preparation to face a strike by AF of L Packing House Workers. Around the middle of March old-crop pastured lambs in the Imperial Valley were selling actively at \$25 to \$26.

The total of California spring lambs contracted, including those already delivered, is estimated to run around 150,000 head (week ending March 26).

## Prices and Slaughter This Year and Last

	1949	1948
Total U. S. Inspected		
Slaughter, February	1,046,000	1,209,000
Week Ended	Mar. 26	Mar. 27
Slaughter at 32 centers	157,746	178,644
Chicago Average Lamb Prices (Woolled):		
Good and Choice	\$29.75	\$21.82
Medium and Good	26.95	19.52
New York Av. Western Dressed Lamb Prices		
Choice, 40-45 pounds	54.70	50.30
Good, 40-45 pounds	53.40	50.10

## Federally Inspected Slaughter—February

	1949	1948
Cattle	994,000	977,000
Calves	476,000	511,000
Hogs	4,080,000	3,746,000
Sheep and Lambs	1,046,000	1,209,000

# "Competition"

The livestock and meat industry is noted for its keen competition. Livestock is raised on almost all of the six million farms in the United States. Each farm is a separate and independent business, with a wide choice of markets in which to sell livestock.

Meat animals are processed by thousands of slaughterers in the United States. These are separate and independent businesses, competing for live animals on one side and for retail trade on the other.

Meat is sold to consumers in more than 300-thousand retail food stores in this country — all competing for consumer dollars. Shoppers have a choice of many stores in which to buy meat.

Every segment of the meat industry is known for its aggressive competition. This is a healthy condition—one that helps insure efficient low-cost meat production and processing, and quick response to consumer demand.

**ARMOUR**  
AND COMPANY

Contracts in Montana the latter part of March as reported by the First National Bank, Great Falls, were as follows: blackfaced yearling ewes, July 1 delivery, \$23.50 per hundred; mixed whitefaced lambs, fall delivery, \$20; mixed blackfaced lambs, fall delivery, \$20 and \$21.50; Suffolk mixed lambs, fall delivery, \$20.50; and choice whitefaced wether lambs, fall delivery, \$20.

E. E. M.

## Early Spring Lamb Crop

A March 14th report of the Department of Agriculture estimates the 1949 early lamb crop in the principal producing States to be about 6 percent less than last year. Indications point to a lamb crop in the early lambing States smaller than any of record start with 1924. The small lamb crop this year continues to reflect the decrease in breeding ewes. In the southeastern States the number of lambs saved per 100 ewes and the proportion of ewes lambing before March 1 are higher and

will result in more early lambs than last year. However, the total lamb crop in these States will be smaller due to the decrease in breeding ewes. Early lambs have made somewhat better progress than expected, considering the adverse weather in the western part of the United States. Marketings of lambs before July 1 are expected to be down, about in line with the smaller early crop. Much depends on California, where lambs were retarded by early winter weather that was both dry and cold. New pasture feed developed late and may result in California early lamb marketings being somewhat later than usual and including a higher than usual proportion of feeder lambs.

The severe winter in the northwestern States has affected both ewes and lambs and, of course, more than the usual death loss occurred. Breeding ewes are in below average condition. More favorable weather starting in the latter part of February has improved the outlook. With mild weather during the remaining spring season, lambs should make rapid progress. Marketings may take place at about the usual

time with a higher than normal proportion of feeder lambs being marketed.

In Arizona the number of early spring lambs may be slightly larger than last year, although marketings may start a month later due to late lambing and somewhat slow development. Pasture feed was short during the early winter months, but recent rapid improvement has provided adequate green feed. Lambs are in generally good condition and at time of marketing may be somewhat heavier than last year.

Reports from the southeastern States of Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia, indicate there will be slightly more early spring lambs this year than last due mostly to the increased percentage of lambs saved and the increased proportion of ewes lambing before March 1. However, the total lamb crop in these States will be down because of the decrease in the number of breeding ewes. Winter weather, unlike that of the Western States, has been very mild and favorable.



# What Will the Loss Be?

NOT only livestock men but the country at large has a vital interest in the effects of the terrific blows the winter dealt to western States. We have heard that stories carried in some eastern papers had the West completely knocked out. That such is not the case is due entirely to the promptness with which everybody—individuals, communities, and local, State, and Federal Government agencies—gathered their forces together to meet the onslaught. To get a first-hand picture of the situation, President Howard Vaughn asked for comments from Executive Committee members at their gathering in Salt Lake City on March 18th. They were given as follows:

## CALIFORNIA

Cost of feed has been in excess of the usual figure. Small loss has been suffered as far as condition of lambs is concerned. Lambing is earlier in California than in other parts of the country. The lambs went through the drouth growing and lambs don't do as well on hay, therefore, there were quite a few lambs not going out fat this spring. Bands are going to cut 30 percent fat when they usually cut 90 percent fat. The northern part of the State looks very good at this time but the San Joaquin Valley is still dry. There have been some recent rains but the grass has not shown up yet.

Harry Petersen

## COLORADO

There were early losses from storms in eastern Colorado. Throughout the State, however, sheep are in generally good condition. It has been most expensive feeding them, however.

E. P. Hazard

Along the western slope in Colorado the worst damage was to the bank account. Sheep losses will not amount to anything. We were able to get feed to them. We have been feeding since before Christmas and are still doing so. This is something never heard of before in this section. The normal condition there is not to feed at all, but this winter the feed costs are probably going to be 7 to 8 times normal. Storms

hit right during the breeding season so the lamb crop will be materially reduced, both in the percentage bred and the number dropped. Sheep have withstood the winter pretty well, but if the spring is a bad one, it will change the picture quite easily.

G. N. Winder

## IDAHO

Some loss in lambs due to slinks and scours might be attributed indirectly to a long period of confinement. As far as feed is concerned, it has cost Idaho producers double to feed their sheep than what it did last year. Ordinarily feed costs in Idaho are higher than those of producers in other States, so this year's expenses are abnormally higher. However, losses directly attributed to weather conditions will not be great.

J. H. Breckenridge

Our lambing percentage will be a little less this year. It is difficult to give a percentage at this time, because late lambers of course, have not lambled yet.

R. C. Rich

## MONTANA

There have been some losses in eastern Montana, particularly among small operators in the extreme southeast. Feed costs have been extraordinarily high, perhaps two to three times what they ordinarily would be. We have had a long period of feeding, commencing about January 1, and are still feeding, with the prospect that it will be necessary for sometime yet. Operating costs have also been greatly increased under the extreme winter conditions deep snow, wind, and extreme cold.

A lighter shrinking wool clip and a smaller lamb crop are expected. However the prospects for grass are excellent because the snow has been melting gradually and it seems to be going right into the ground.

Wallace Ulmer

Eastern Montana has been hard hit because snow is unusual in that section, and producers were not prepared for it. The winter in central and western Montana has not been out of the

ordinary, although the cold spell has been unusually long and therefore, it has been necessary to feed earlier and longer.

Everett E. Shuey

## NEVADA

The losses, particularly around Ely, will amount to 25 percent in both sheep and cattle. This is just an estimate; the full loss won't be known until late spring. However, it will be at least that high. The haylift did a lot of good in Nevada in getting hay to livestock. It has been reported as definitely effective. Although it has cost the Government a lot of money and also the livestockmen a lot of money, a great number of livestock were saved by its operation.

E. R. Marvel

## OREGON

The condition of the sheep in Oregon to date is generally fair. The effects of the long hard winter will show up possibly in lighter lamb crops. The wool should not be affected very much.

W. H. Steiwer

## SOUTH DAKOTA

In South Dakota the total loss cannot be determined until perhaps the first of June. The ewe loss in the western part of the State will probably be from 3 to 5 percent above the normal loss. The feed bill to save the sheep is probably 4 times that of a normal year.

H. J. Devereaux

## TEXAS

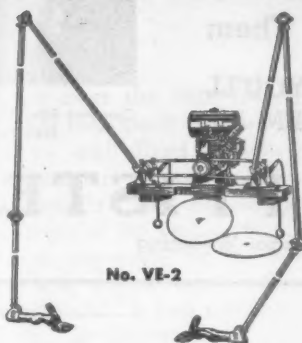
We have had some good rains and most of the State is in good shape. The lamb crop will be about 10 percent lighter than average, due to the cold weather in late January and early February.

Jake Mayfield

We have not had any storms in my section. The loss has been from extreme drouth and livestock have been reduced.

Clayton Puckett

# Sunbeam STEWART SHEARING EQUIPMENT... Dependable, Long Lasting



No. VE-2

## PORTABLE MACHINES

### Double Unit

Complete plant for team of two. Can be used from rear of truck, auto trunk, trailer or a small platform. Has two clutch brackets, powered by 1 1/2 hp. air-cooled engine. Two special grinder discs do a perfect job of sharpening and reduce operating costs. 3-section jointed shafts permit use under any shearing conditions. **No. VE-2**, \$225. (Denver and West, \$232.)

### Single Unit

Lightweight, one-man unit. Easy-to-handle. Pays for itself. **No. VD-1**, \$155. (Denver and West, \$160.)

## MACHINES

### without engine or motor

Use your own engine or motor with this clutch bracket shearing gear. At right is one mounted on a simple easily constructed stand. Can also be placed on wall or post. Low initial cost. Uses flat or V-belt. Complete with clutch bracket, E-B Handpiece, combs, cutters and choice of shafts. **No. VB-2** (illustrated) with 3-section 126" shaft, \$75. (Denver and West \$76.50.) **No. VB-1** with 2-section, 67" shaft, \$65. (Denver and West, \$66.50.) **No. VB-5** with 2-section, 42" shaft, \$65. (Denver and West, \$66.50.)



No. VB-2

## Special Combs and Cutters Available for Wide Handpieces



P1082

### ARIZONA THIN COMB

Developed for hard, gummy sheep. Pointed teeth enter wool freely—keeps tallies up. **No. P1082** Arizona Thin Comb, \$1.65 ea.



80Y

### THIN HEEL CUTTER

Shearers tell us this comb cuts faster, better, lasts longer and grinds right. Fork yokes put more pressure on front end nearer point where cutting is done. **No. 80Y** Thin Heel Cutter, \$0.65 ea.

### 3W—PROTECTIVE COMB

Leaves enough stubble to protect sheep from cold, storms, sunburn. Teeth with medium sled runners alternate with teeth of standard shape. **No. 3W** Protective Comb, \$2.50 ea.



3W

### AAA CUTTER

Finest cutter made. Cutter teeth mesh better with comb teeth. Produces more efficient cutting angles for faster, cleaner shearing. **No. 34AB**, AAA Cutter, \$0.65 ea.



34AB

## E-B HANDPIECE



Stands up under the high speed required by expert shearers. Careful distribution of weight gives the "feel" experts like. High quality tool steel used in parts subjected to wear makes this Handpiece last longer. **No. E-B**, \$24.50.

SUNBEAM CORPORATION • (formerly Chicago Flexible Shaft Company) • Dept. 63, 5600 W. Roosevelt Rd., Chicago 50, Ill.

## UTAH

The economic losses in southern Utah will be from 25 to 30 percent, due to the high feed cost. The sheep that have been fed are in generally better condition and if they were bucked well, a good lamb crop can be expected. However, about a third of the sheep are in bad condition, ranging from bad to very bad. Some outfits have lost a third of their sheep up to the present time and anticipate a very small lamb crop and a very small wool crop. The haylift was a lifesaver. Without it, it would have been impossible to have saved the industry in the area which was served. While its cost to the Government has been very high, one of the Army officers in charge of the haylift said it was the best experience possible for his boys, as it constituted an actual mission to be performed. What it had cost the Government would probably have been spent, in the officer's opinion, in training the boys, and the results would not have been so effective, because the actual experience that they had could hardly have been obtained except in actual combat.

Douglas Clark

## WASHINGTON

Washington has had the severest winter and deepest snows of record, but the disaster was confined to the bank account. The feed price will be about double in the southern part of the State. Lambing is pretty well along and we have lambled out a good percentage. The sheep are in good condition.

A. R. Bohoskey

## WYOMING

It is impossible for anyone to say now what the full extent of the loss will be before the first of June. There have already been some losses and no one can hazard a guess as to what the total will be. It is safe to say that the ewe loss will be about 5 to 10 percent over the storm area. Feed costs have definitely expanded and will probably run around 4 times the normal cost, and in some instances, will be greater than that. In addition to that, we know we will have a reduced wool clip and a considerably smaller lamb crop.

Harold Josendal

## Shrinkage Determination

THE U. S. Department of Agriculture is offering a shrinkage determination service to all growers this year at a fee. Shrinkage is to be determined on the basis of core samples. Those desiring this service should file their application with the Chief of the Wool Division, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. or with the Supervisor of Sampling at a designated market.

The fees for this service are:

Lots of:	Charge per lot
1-50 bags (or bales)	\$35.00
51-150 bags (or bales)	45.00
151-200 bags (or bales)	50.00
201-300 bags (or bales)	55.00
301 bags and over (or bales)	60.00

These charges do not include the expense incident to making the wool available for core sampling or replacing the wool in the warehouse after the core sample has been obtained, which expense must be borne by the applicant.

# 250 RUGGED YEARLING COLUMBIA RAMS

## FOR YOUR 1949 REQUIREMENTS

**Carefully selected from a crop of 600 ram lambs**

## These are really worthy sires

### Carrying Half to Three-eighths Blood Wool

## REDD RANCHES

## La Sal, Utah

Registered  
**COLUMBIAS**

## You Are Invited To Inspect Them

**WE KNOW YOU'LL  
LIKE THEM**

# JOE PFISTER

## Node, Wyoming



**Champion Ram, 1948 Wyoming State Fair**

## The Making of the Columbia Sheep

(Continued from page 11)

dropped in 1925 which did a lot of good in the flock through one of his sons shows some of the matings from the original crosses down to the launching of the breed in 1920.

Pedigree of Columbia ram 729K dropped in 1925 showing typical style of matings in the formative stages of the breed. The figures show the year in which each sheep was born.

This pedigree of 729 K (from 1920 to 1923 the designation "Clbia" was used on the ear tags. In 1924 this was changed to "K"), shows quite well how the matings were made in the principal formative years of the Columbia. It must be remembered that these matings were not dictated by the relationships of the sheep shown. Rather, selections were based on individual

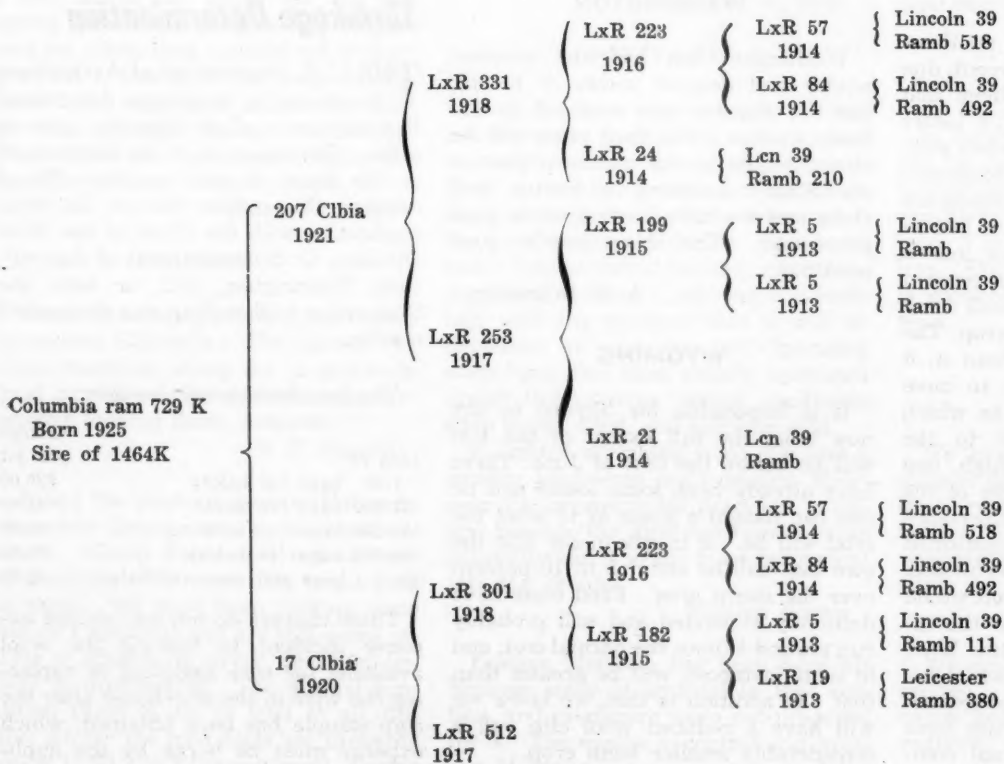
merit. But since the flock was practically all descended from Lincoln 39, the ewes and sires were necessarily closely related.

Under the customary way of calculating it appears that 729 K, five generations and thirteen years away from Lincoln 39, still carried 46 per cent of the blood of that ram. They take the ram LxR 223 in the top line

He was a double grandson of Lincoln 39, but he was bred to a first-cross ewe to get L x R 331, dropped in 1918. The maternal grandsire of 729 K, was LxR 301 also by L x R 223. But in this case sire and dam were both grandchildren of the old ram. It is also shown that the maternal grand dam of L x R 301 was sired by the Leicester ram, apparently one of the few cases in which a top ewe lamb from one of the other crosses was allowed to go into the Lincoln - Rambouillet flock. The pedigree shows that this was the only outside blood, amounting to three and one-eighth percent in 729 K.

Again it is interesting to note that this ram L x R 301 was bred to a first-cross ewe to get the dam of 729 K.

It seems like an almost impossible task.





ree. But, to repeat, we were not trying to make pedigrees. We were just breeding the best to the best. And the concentration of blood was the concentration of stamina and strong constitution.

### Naming the Breed

In checking over the 1918 crop of lambs we were convinced that we had already pretty well fixed a type of a good combination of characteristics from the Lincoln and Rambouillet breeds. Visitors at the Dubois Station in Idaho were impressed by the flock which was still called Lincoln-Rambouillet crossbreds. It had promise, if not certainty, of becoming a useful breed and a more distinctive and convenient name was desirable. For several months in 1919 I studied and consulted over what the name should be. Numerous friends made suggestions, none of which suited me. Finally, to end the discussion, I announced that since this was a distinctly American production we would call it "Columbia."

In the spring of 1920 I resigned from the Bureau of Animal Industry to become secretary of the National Wool Growers' Association. In the Association's catalog for the fifth annual National Ram Sale a pen of six yearling Columbia rams was entered, the first time the breed was placed before the public. The entry appeared as follows in that catalog:

#### COLUMBIAS

Bureau of Animal Industry

U.S. Experiment Station Dubois, Idaho

This flock has been developed from the original cross of a Lincoln ram on Rambouillet ewes in 1912. The best of the first-cross rams was mated to the first-cross ewes and the best of the rams from that mating was bred from the next year. The present offering are the result of three generations of such breeding without recourse to either Lincoln or Rambouillet stock. They represent a true breeding family of the type obtained from a Lincoln-Rambouillet cross. They will be valuable in flocks in which the aim is to produce such a combination of mutton, wool, and range adaptability as has been heretofore obtained by original crosses.

These rams were dropped April and May, 1919 and raised on the range. They were closely shorn by hand on October 1, 1919.

#### Range Rams

Lot 524 6 yearling rams

The lot was sold to Boundy Brothers, Shellbourne, Nevada at \$40 per head. The next year, in the sale the Bureau sold a single Columbia ram to Tom Painter, Evanston, Wyoming at \$50, and

a pen of five to S. S. Stillman, Sugarhouse, Utah at \$25.

The catalog statement for the first Columbias sold, in 1920, said that they were a true breeding family. I recognize that such a statement may cause some surprise. I suppose that as editor of the catalog, I must have written that statement. And I think it can be supported. There is no need to argue the point now, after twenty-eight years, but in connection with my claim that a type was fixed in three generations it is well to recall that we were not developing new qualities. The aim was to combine some things from each of the parent stocks. Then with old Lincoln 39 as the source of half of what

was desired, and having been such a rugged sheep that his blood could be so safely concentrated, the road was made much shorter than it would have been if a number of Lincoln rams had had to be used.

### The Rise of the Breed

That is my version of what I was asked to write—The Story of the Making of the Columbia.

I was succeeded in the Bureau by D. A. Spencer, who is still in charge of sheep and wool investigations. Mr. V. O. McWhorter was closely connected with the Columbia work during the time it was carried on at Laramie and in 1917 was stationed at Dubois. Here

**COLUMBIAS ..**  
**SUFFOLKS ..**  
**CORRIEDALES ..**  
**CALIFORNIA'S PIONEER FLOCKS**  
Registered and Unregistered breeding stock  
RANGE RAMS A SPECIALTY  
**CAMPBELL RANCH**  
DIXON, CALIFORNIA

## COLUMBIAS



These recorded ewes from R. B. Marquiss and Sons, Gillette, Wyoming, have recently been added to our flock.

## WHITE'S COLUMBIA SHEEP COMPANY

DAYTON OR BROWNING, MONTANA

## ● Quality Columbias ● Champions March On!

Founded on U. S. Sheep Experiment  
Station Breeding

My flock selectively bred, including 1943 service  
of No. 582-1944 Grand Champion National Colum-  
bia Show and Sale.

Rigidly culled and now headed by  
Gallatin Prince No. A 7927-1947 Grand Champion  
National Columbia Show and Sale.  
Now Booking Orders for 1949

Inspection and Inquiry Solicited

**N. L. TOWNE, Owner**  
BOZEMAN, MONTANA

## COLUMBIA RAMS

We breed a medium-sized Columbia with a  $\frac{3}{4}$   
fleece for use in Western South Dakota.  
See our consignments at Newell, Faith or Buffalo  
Ram Sales, or at Ranch any time.  
We also have Rambouilleis and Lincoln-Ram-  
bouillet Crossbreds.

WILLARD H. WARREN—Fairpoint, S. D.

he took the U. S. Sheep Experiment Station from a piece of dry, raw sagebrush land to a well-equipped concern for studies in sheep breeding. He was in immediate charge of all the sheep and all the work at Dubois until he resigned in 1922 to go into partnership with Professor Howard Hackedorn and myself in a commercial outfit at Prosser, Washington. He was succeeded at Dubois in order by W. A. Denecke, J. M. Cooper, S. L. Smith and Julius E. Nordby.

### After 1920

To bring affairs of the Columbia breed down nearer to date I am adding some of the facts furnished to me by Mr. Spencer about some of the plans followed after 1920. Right here however, I want to suggest and urge that Messrs. Spencer and Nordby, or a geneticist directed by them should record the story I have told rather sketchily above, in full detail. This should be done not so much for breeders as for those studying and teaching the principles of breeding livestock. The facts of the making of the Columbia are at variance with the theories of breeding that prevailed up to 1914, and which for all I know may still be recognized in some class rooms.

In 1924 the Bureau purchased a Lincoln ram from Dr. S. W. McClure and used him for three seasons on specially selected Rambouillet ewes. This was for the purpose of having a larger number of ewes of the crossbred type for expanding the Columbia flock. In 1926, 1927, and 1934 other Lincoln rams were secured from the

M. L. Buchanan, Secretary  
U. S. Archibald, President

## COLUMBIAS

More Wool More Mutton

Address inquiries to  
Columbia Sheep Breeders Ass'n.  
of America

Box 2466 — State College Station  
Fargo, North Dakota

University of Wyoming, also for mating with Rambouillet ewes to build up a larger Columbia flock.

In addition to the later use of first-cross ewes, whose progeny was admitted to the Columbia flock only after three crosses of Columbia rams, the flock was also enlarged by taking in the tops of another flock at the Station. The ewes so added had three crosses of Columbia sires on a foundation resulting from several generations of using Corriedale rams on first-cross Lincoln Rambouillet ewes.

Since all these additions to the Columbia flock after 1934, had no fewer than three crosses of Columbia sires, and since all of the Lincoln blood in the original flock came through Lincoln 39, it can be seen that all of the Bureau's Columbia stock continued to be dominated by the old original ram. In response to an inquiry I recently addressed to Mr. Spencer as to whether any weaknesses appeared in the closely bred descendants of Lincoln 39, he wrote: "Experiences we have had since that time in needs for culling each lamb crop lead me to believe that the close breeding in the early years is not resulting in noticeable weaknesses."

The Bureau continued to sell Columbia rams in the National Ram Sale, except in 1923, until 1932, when the policy of selling through sales at the Station was adopted. The high spot in the sales during that period was in 1928, when four single rams sold for an average of \$223, and a pen of twelve went to Snyder Bros., Lovell, Wyoming, at \$145 each. In that year Dr. S. W. McClure sold 20 yearlings, which were the first Columbias in the sale other than the Government entries. From 1933 to 1936 there were no Columbias in the sale. In 1937 Ernest White, Kalispell, Montana, entered 5 Columbia rams.

## COLUMBIA RAMS

For the grower who wants  
**More Lamb—More Wool  
and  
More Profit**

About 400 Yearling Columbia Rams will be sold at auction at our ranch in September, 1949. Date to be announced later. No better plan to fill your ram requirements.

**C. W. DORNEY**

Monte Vista

Colorado

## See our outstanding flock of COLUMBIAS

Rams—Registered—Ewes  
Also Range Rams

**ELMER LIND & SONS**  
VERNAL, UTAH

### Registration

In 1941, the Bureau, along with Ernest White and a few others organized the Columbia Sheep Breeders Association. In 1945 the words "of America" were added to the official name.

It was required that sheep considered for registration should have five crosses of recorded Columbia rams. The start could be made with a Rambouillet or Corriedale ewe. All rams used after 1940 were required to have been entered in the flock book for the breed or have ear-tag numbers to show that they were bred in either the Government or White flocks. The White Columbias were descended on both sides from sheep from the Government flock.

This rule was continued through 1948, after which only experiment stations may record other than the progeny of recorded stock. This provision for the experiment stations is closely hedged about. The sheep produced must pass the examination of a technical committee and be certified as fit to contribute to the improvement of the breed. It does not seem likely that many sheep will be accepted by the association under this provision.

But the Columbia breeders also have "selective registration." Every sheep for which registration is applied for must pass inspection for individual merit. This is a real innovation in livestock registration. It assures a buyer that any recorded sheep offered for sale must have passed inspection for

the minimum requirements of individual merit. The Columbia Sheep Breeders Association of America also maintains a Record of Performance (R.O.P.) registry. Rams are admitted to this registry "when 75 per cent of all their progeny for any one year, from 25 or more ewes, comprising not less than 18 head, pass inspection for recording in the flock book." "Recorded ewes are eligible for R.O.P. registry if three of their progeny pass inspection for recording in the flock book."

Such a registry is of value to breeders because it identifies the stronger breeding rams and ewes, and their appearance in a pedigree adds materially to the value of a prospective purchase. Rams entered in the R.O.P. have sold at high prices.

## MAN'S BEST FRIEND



Lighten your herding problems with a well-trained

## BORDER COLLIE

## SHEEP DOG DIRECTORY

- ALLEN, ARTHUR N.  
McLeansboro, Illinois
- HACKING, RULON S.,  
Vernal, Utah
- HANSEN, WYNN S.,  
Collinston, Utah  
(Mr. Hansen has no dogs for sale at present)
- JONTZ, DEWEY M.  
Altoona, Iowa
- LOCKWOOD, JOHN,  
Cooksville, Maryland
- McCLAIN & SONS, HOWARD  
Lima, Ohio  
(Charge for listing: \$12 for 12 issues).

## Status of the Breed

Press reports of the last ten years have set forth the rise and spread of the Columbia breed and the prices paid for individual animals. By November, 1948, some 30,000 Columbias had been recorded. There are now 820 breeders owning recorded sheep. Of these 294 are in North Dakota, 109 in South Dakota, 99 in Minnesota, 78 in Montana, 40 in Wyoming, from 18 to 26 each in Colorado, Missouri, Ohio, Oregon and Utah, with smaller numbers in 20 other States. At the 1948 National Ram Sale nineteen breeders sold 90 Columbias for an average of \$140 per head.

The breed is well established and well distributed. Its future will depend upon the success of its breeders in maintaining a type of good size and conformation and shearing ability without being diverted to seek minor fancy qualities that may not contribute to maximum production of lamb and wool.

## Winter Is Over

PROMPTLY with the coming of March the weather Gods relented and brought to Idaho the best March we have had in a quarter of a century. The storms abated, the winds died, and the temperature gradually rose. It warmed so slowly and evenly the huge snowfall that covered this part of the State just melted a little each day and was totally absorbed by the earth. Our Snake River drains all of south and central Idaho. The melting of the snow was so gradual that the runoff hardly reached the river, and fishing was interfered with for only two or three days. The dire predictions of floods and washouts failed to materialize. The care with which the snow was taken away was very fortunate. How the ground can hold so much moisture is a mystery. Grass has started and while not too good is all that can be expected.

In spite of the long cold winter we have a fine crop of early lambs; in many cases more than average. Ewes are in good shape and the few that are shorn look good. So far as I can hear there are no winter losses of consequence. Herd supplies were ample and sheepmen have some hay left over but they

always do. Already the ewes are moving to the desert and a week of warm weather will banish the memories of the most miserable winter in 50 years.

The Atomic Energy Commission has announced the location of some kind of Atomic plant on the desert near Arco, Idaho. It is claimed the plant will require around 400,000 acres of now grazing land. This will displace a few thousand sheep and cattle that will need to find another range or go to market. As yet the project is surrounded by so much Government propaganda that it is not safe to give any details. We can only be certain that whatever land is involved will forever be kept off our tax rolls.

April 1, 1949.

S. W. McClure,  
Bliss, Idaho

## 34th NATIONAL RAM SALE

Time: August 22-23, 1949

Place: Union Stock Yards  
North Salt Lake, Utah

## IMPORTED SCOTCH SHEEP DOGS BORDER COLLIES

We have for sale two litters of pups—one starting to work and the other 11 weeks old. Sired by best sheep dog in Scotland and out of bitches imported by us last summer and fall. All registered.

WM. MILLAR

MT. PLEASANT, UTAH

## REGISTERED GREAT PYRENEES PUPPIES FOR SALE

For Sheep and Guard Work  
Wonderful with children  
Four months old

HELEN E. CAUDLE  
Twin Falls, Idaho, Route #2

A LIMITED NUMBER OF

## BORDER COLLIE SHEEP DOGS FOR SALE

in these critical times of labor shortage, this dog will do the work of two men herding, gathering, driving sheep and goats!



PETERSON STOCK FARM  
KERRVILLE, TEXAS





## • BREEDERS' DIRECTORY •

KEEP YOUR NAME BEFORE THE BUYING PUBLIC ALL YEAR AT A MINIMUM COST OF \$12 FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS

(Order your listing through the National Wool Growers Association Company, 414 Pacific National Life Building, Salt Lake City 1, Utah)

### COLUMBIAS

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Monte Vista, Colorado
- HANSEN, WYNN S.  
Collinston, Utah
- HANSON, MARK B.  
Spanish Fork, Utah
- HOOTEN, JOE, & DETHLOFF, JOHN  
Harvey, North Dakota
- HUGHES LIVESTOCK CO., INC.  
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- MARQUISS, R. B., & SONS  
Gillette, Wyoming
- MEULEMAN & SONS, HARRY  
Rupert, Idaho, Rte. 1
- PFISTER, JOSEPH  
Node, Wyoming
- PINE TREE RANCH  
Gillette, Wyoming
- THOMPSON RANCH, E. B.  
Milan, Missouri
- WHITE'S COLUMBIA SHEEP CO.  
Dayton, Montana
- YOUNG, CY  
St. Anthony, Idaho

### COLUMBIA-RAMBOUILLET CROSSBREDS

- SCHULZ, LESTER R.  
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### CORRIEDALES

- MATTHEWS, J. W.  
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### CROSSBREDS

- CUNNINGHAM SHEEP CO.  
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- WILLIAMS & PAULY  
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- BEAU GESTE FARMS  
Oskaloosa, Iowa
- BROADMEAD FARMS  
Amity, Oregon
- BURTON, T. B.  
Cambridge, Idaho
- HUBBARD, WALTER P.  
Junction City, Oregon
- MACCARTHY & SON, D. P.  
Salem, Oregon
- ROCK AND SON, P. J.  
Drumheller, Alta., Canada
- TEDMON LIVESTOCK  
Rte. 3, Ft. Collins, Colorado
- THOMPSON RANCH, E. B.  
Milan, Missouri

### MONTADALES

- MONTADALE SHEEP BREEDERS'  
ASSOCIATION  
61 Angelica St., St. Louis, Mo.

### PANAMAS

- HORN, JOSEPH  
Rupert, Idaho
- MEULEMAN & SONS, HARRY  
Rupert, Idaho, Rte. 1.

### RAMBOUILLETS

- BARNARD CO., BRUCE M.  
Shiprock, N. M.
- CUNNINGHAM SHEEP CO.  
Pendleton, Oregon
- HANSEN, WYNN S.  
Collinston, Utah
- J. K. MADSEN RAMBOUILLET  
FARM  
Mt. Pleasant, Utah
- NIELSON SHEEP CO.  
Ephraim, Utah
- PFISTER, THOS., & SONS  
Node, Wyoming
- WILLIAMS & PAULY  
Deer Lodge, Montana

- WITHERS, JOHN V.  
Paisley, Oregon

### SUFFOLKS

- BARNARD CO., BRUCE M.  
Shiprock, N. M.
- BECKER, M. W.  
Rupert, Idaho
- BURTON, T. B.  
Cambridge, Idaho
- BONIDA FARM  
Lima, Montana
- CURRY, S. E.  
Plainview, Texas
- FOX, FLOYD T.  
Silverton, Oregon
- FULLMER BROTHERS  
Roberts, Idaho (Star Route)
- GRENVILLE, ARTHUR C. B.  
Morrin, Alta, Canada
- HUBBARD, WALTER P.  
Junction City, Oregon
- PEMBROKE, RALPH  
Big Lake, Texas
- PIGGOT, D. R.  
McMurdo, Golden, B. C., Canada
- ROCK & SON, P. J.  
Drumheller, Alta., Canada
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Ilderton, Ont., Canada
- WADDELL, DAVE  
Amity, Oregon
- WANKIER, FARRELL T.  
Levan, Utah
- WHITE'S COLUMBIA SHEEP CO.,  
Dayton, Montana
- TARGHEES
- HUGHES LIVESTOCK CO., INC.  
Stanford, Montana



# Around the Range Country

In most instances, March arrived amid mild weather and rising temperatures. Washington and Oregon had moderate to heavy rains the first week, and Texas received some much needed rain. Livestock continued to gain strength but feeding was necessary in nearly all areas.

As the month proceeded, many winter ranges were cleared of snow and some were open to use.

Snow fell at mid-month in Montana, Wyoming and Colorado. Pastures and ranges began to green in the southwestern border States. Sheep shearing was active in the Southwest.

Unseasonably cold weather struck as the month ended. Occasional snow fell in the Rocky Mountain area. In the far West pastures and ranges continued to green satisfactorily. Many

were still too wet for grazing but some were being utilized, thus reducing the need for heavy supplemental feeding. Livestock were fair to good in most of the area and lambing continued under generally favorable conditions.

## ARIZONA

### Queen Creek

At present, the weather is normal (March 18). Feed has started but will play out within three weeks unless we have more rain.

Flocks wintered just fair. Lambing has commenced and there will be fewer lambs because of the severe cold during lambing. Sufficient help was available.

Stacked alfalfa is \$20 per ton, while baled is \$30.

Lambs are being contracted at from 22 to 25 cents per pound for fall de-

livery. Fine-wool yearling ewes have been selling at \$27.50 per head.

Sheep have been shorn. Shearers received 30 cents without board as compared with 28 cents a year ago. The labor contract included shearers and three extra men.

Fine wool in this vicinity has been contracted at 50 cents per pound.

Donald Ellsworth

## COLORADO

### Monte Vista, Rio Grande County

We have had snow here since January 5, but it is all gone at this writing (March 13). The winter was normal in San Luis Valley and the severe storms farther north did not reach us. I don't think the storms will have any effect on future operations in this area.

Stacked alfalfa is \$20 a ton, and baled is \$22.50. We feed cottonseed

## Idaho Shearing Schools

Shearing schools are in "high fashion" over the country at this time of year. In Idaho a series of three schools was held during March: one at Moscow on the 7th and 8th; another at the University Experiment Station out of Caldwell on the 9th and 10th; and the third at the Walter Coiner Ranch out of Twin Falls on the 11th and 12th. At each school there were from 18 to 26 young men ranging in age from 17 to 26 who took the course.

"A. E. Warner, livestock specialist of the Sunbeam Corporation, formerly Chicago Flexible Shaft Company, makers of shearing equipment, was the instructor," writes Secretary M. C. Claar of the Idaho Wool Growers Association. "He is a very able shearer with a pleasant personality that put him over well with the young men. So well did he instruct them, that by the end of the second day a good many were shearing sheep in a most professional manner, though a trifle slowly."

Professor C. W. Hickman, head of the Animal Husbandry Department of the University of Idaho, and E. F. Rinehart, animal husbandman, Extension Service, Boise, assisted at the schools, which were arranged for by the University, with the Idaho Wool Growers Association cooperating in the entire program.



A. E. Warner, livestock specialist of the Sunbeam Corporation, right gives some pointers to a student in the art of sheep shearing.

and soy bean pellets during the winter and had no difficulty in buying them at \$89 a ton.

A small bunch of 2-year-old cross-bred (whitefaced) yearling ewes of exceptional quality sold at \$30 per head recently.

Since January, 1949 wool has been contracted at from 50 to 55 cents per pound.

Burt E. Haigler

## IDAHO

### Jerome, Jerome County

We had very bad weather during lambing and the number of lambs saved will not be as great as a year ago. Our lambing help this year is the best since before the war.

Weather and feed conditions are above normal for this time of the year (March 16) in this section. The sheep came through the winter in good shape.

Stacked alfalfa is selling at \$25 to \$30, while baled is \$30.

The sheep will be shorn in April and May. Contract rate is 42 cents per head and includes all labor.

George Weigle

### Leadore, Lemhi County

We have had good weather since March 1; much better than usual for lambing. Our lambing percentage will be about the same as in other years. We have plenty of help for lambing and there also seems to be available sufficient herders (March 22).

My sheep wintered better than usual. Alfalfa hay in the stack is \$16 per ton. Most of our shearing will be done in June.

About 10,000 pounds of three-eighths blood wool has been contracted at 53 cents per pound.

F. J. Whittaker

### Riggins, Idaho County

The winter here was extra cold but quite dry, and the sheep wintered quite well. Most people in this section had plenty of hay or were able to get at it fast enough to keep the stock from suffering. We will have to stock up on hay again (March 12) and hope for a few average years to accumulate a surplus. We have an abundance of grass since the coming of spring.

Goat weed has started all over this country and it keeps increasing. I hope

something can be done about it in the near future. Since the use of 1080 poison, goat weed has replaced the coyote as our No. 1 predator.

Dave Walters

## MONTANA

### Cascade, Cascade County

The past winter has not affected our operations, because we had sufficient hay and pasture for our 800 ewes. They wintered better this year than in previous winters. Livestock in general are in good shape (March 3) although it has been necessary to feed heavily.

We are now lambing and are having very good weather, which is welcome. Stacked alfalfa is \$16 to \$18 per ton, while baled is \$22 to \$28.

Some fine wool has been contracted here at 71 cents per pound.

Carl C. Warehime

### Lennep, Meagher County

Have had a tough winter but the stock have come through in good shape and losses have been normal. The last two weeks have been the finest weather I can remember so it seems that it can go from one extreme to the other with equal ease (March 6).

I sold my wool for 70 cents. No lambs have been contracted yet, but yearling ewes are moving a little at \$22 out of the wool.

Andy Grande

### Winnett, Petroleum County

We have had an unusually long, monotonous winter with an excess of snow and with no sustained chinook winds or thawing spells. At present (March 18) we have about one foot of snow and what may be termed as mild winter weather.

All the sheep in this area, so far as I know, have wintered in very good shape. We had an abundance of good grass; and hay and concentrates have been plentiful. Alfalfa hay in the stack is \$20 a ton, and baled, \$25.

Lambing usually begins here in April and early May. Shearing is done in mid-June and early July.

The Government 1080 program has been a big success. I have seen only one coyote during the past three months, 35 miles from my ranch. Our sheep have been unattended in closed

pastures since the middle of January without any loss so far as we know. Not a track in all of this snow.

W. C. Wiggins

## NEW MEXICO

### Shiprock, San Juan County

Range and weather conditions have been above normal for March. Spring feed is just beginning to grow (March 22). The sheep came through the winter in excellent shape. Baled alfalfa is going at \$30, and stacked at \$20.

Lambing will commence around April 1. Extra help for lambing is proving difficult; in fact, regular help is still hard to find.

Shearing will be done in April and May. About 75 percent of the wool in this area has been contracted. About one-fourth of this amount is three-eighths and the rest, fine. Most of the wool sold at 60 cents a grease pound.

Frank M. Hammond

## OREGON

### Burns, Harney County

The spring grass is just starting (March 18). It will be several weeks before we can get much feed. All the sheep in this section wintered well. Stacked alfalfa has been \$20 and baled, \$27.

In Harney County, most of the lambing occurs in April. There seems to be plenty of help available. Shearing will begin around May 1. The charge will be 25 cents a head. Contract rate is about 50 cents in the bag and everything (board, etc.) is included.

No wool has been contracted. Around 53 to 55 cents was offered.

J. C. Carter

## SOUTH DAKOTA

### Castle Rock, Butte County

The past winter has been the worst in a long time. I was able to feed with the exception of one day so far (March 3) but some ranchers have not been able to get to their hay. Most have been getting enough grain to their stock, but in the severe January storm some were not able to feed for 2 or 3 days.



I may run short of hay for next winter, depending on the winter hay crop, but my stock look good at this time. Soybean pellets were fed at \$85 per ton.

Fine-wool yearling ewes are priced at \$20 to \$25; while crossbred (white-faced) yearling ewes are \$19 to \$22.

Henry W. Jacobsen, Jr.

#### Castle Rock, Butte County

Feed on the range is good (March 23) since the snow left the last week in February. The sheep wintered fair, although the cost of wintering them was double that of last year. The winter, however, was the hardest since 1919 and 1920. The death loss amounts to about 10 percent on the average.

Stacked alfalfa is selling at \$30, and baled at \$35 to \$40. Corn was plentiful at \$53 per ton.

Asking price on crossbred (white-faced) yearling ewes is \$29 in the wool.

Range lambing starts the latter part of April. Shed lambing begins about April 1. Lambing hands are hard to get.

Shearers are being paid 30 cents per head with board and 33 cents without board. Last year's rate was 30 cents without board. The contract includes a wool tier and tromper.

None of the wool in this area has been consigned, but by talk it would seem prices will be increased about 10 percent.

About 10 percent more breeding ewes were held over from last year. More ewe lambs were held over than for many years.

We have no coyote problem as poison bait and plane hunting seem to have cleared them out.

There will be less money in sheep this year than last, unless we get 10 percent more for the wool. The average last year was 70 cents for wool and 25 cents for lambs. Herders are asking \$200, without board, per month.

The National Wool Growers Association is doing a wonderful job; just keep it up. Without it the sheep industry would be on the rocks. More power to all officers and the Executive Committee.

George J. Johnson

#### Newell, Butte County

It stormed here from January 3 until February 28, but loss was only average. The forage on the range is good. About twice as much feeding was required as a year ago. Flocks are in good condition at this time (March 5). Corn has been available at \$56 per ton.

I would say more ewes were bred this year. Fine-wool yearling ewes are quoted at about \$28 and crossbred (white-faced) yearling ewes at \$27.

Operational costs in 1948 were about one third higher than in 1947 or 1946.

W. A. Heston

#### TEXAS

#### Gouldsbush, Coleman County

Present moisture is greater than in the last two or three years. However, some feeding is still necessary (March 28), and we fed heavy all winter. Baled alfalfa is \$38.

Lambing has started and my percentage up to now has been excellent. Fair weather and plenty of help aided successful lambing. Yearling ewes are priced at around \$20 out of wool.

Shearing will start in May and shearers will receive 25 cents per head, without board, as they did last year. About 75 percent of the wool in this section has been consigned. An advance of \$2 per head was offered.

I enjoy reading the National Wool Grower and appreciate hearing from other sheep and wool growers through this valuable paper.

G. R. Allen

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## Leaday, Coleman County

The weather has been warm here since March 1. The green feed is coming slowly but it looks much better than it did a year ago. The drouth has hurt this country. The grass and weeds are thin, and this country has about half as many sheep as before.

Sheep have wintered fair. Alfalfa has been bringing about \$35 a ton baled.

I think the lamb crop will be better than it was last year (March 21). My ewes started around March 20. There isn't very much trading in sheep at present.

We will start shearing about May 1. Quite a bit of wool has been contracted at 65 and 70 cents.

Ralph Allen

## Robert Lee, Coke County

Weather and feed conditions have greatly improved. We had a nice rain March 1 and also this week (March 21). The sheep are in fair condition, although the feed required was heavier than in many years. Stacked alfalfa is \$38 per ton. Lambing is just starting and we have sufficient help.

Recent sales of fine wool yearling ewes have been at \$26.

Shearing is done in May and the rate will be 26 cents, without board, the same as a year ago. Labor includes shearing and sacking.

Approximately 70 percent of the 1949 wool clip here has been contracted, 50 percent fine, and 20 percent three-eighths.

Gerald C. Allen

## Sanderson, Terrel County

The weather is favorable and mild (March 20), but the feed is very short. Baled alfalfa is selling at \$42.

Lambing has begun and the percentage is about the same as a year ago. We are having moderate weather and have plenty of help. A few lambs have been contracted for fall delivery at 22 cents. The going price of fine-wool yearling ewes out of the wool is \$20.

Shearing will begin about April 15. The rate will be 22 cents per head, tallying with last year's rate.

About 50 percent of the fine wool in this area has been sold at 75 cents per pound.

James W. Allen

## UTAH

### Laketown, Rich County

Although we had some bad storms in the past months, we were close to hay. No excessive losses were sustained (March 1). Feeding was increased about 30 percent but flocks at present are in good condition. Purina pellets and corn were fed; Purina at \$88 per ton, and corn at \$3.30 per hundredweight.

We fed about 40 head of lambs this winter at Laketown.

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Around the Range Country gives our readers a chance to express their opinions about anything pertaining to the industry or about life in general. In offering this space for free expression of thought, the National Wool Grower assumes no responsibility for any statement made.

Our loss from predators amounts to about one percent, or the same as last year.

Operational costs in 1948 were 15 percent higher than in 1947 and 25 to 30 percent higher than in 1946.

Willis Brothers

## WYOMING

### Casper, Natrona County

We have about two inches of new snow here this morning (March 11), although in the southern part of the State they have as much as 9 inches of new snow. This means that those in the south are continuing to feed hay. In our area the range is open enough so that it is no longer necessary to feed hay, but only concentrates.

We are still getting reports of losses, but, of course, nobody knows or will know until probably the first of June what the real loss is going to total. It certainly does not present too encouraging a picture to us.

Harold Josendal

### Savageton, Campbell County

Range feed is very short, probably the poorest in many years (March 24). Sheep wintered very well. Baled hay is \$35 to \$40 per ton.

Some two- and three-year-old ewes sold recently at \$24.50, to lamb May 1.

May 28 to June 20 are the shearing dates here. The rate will be 30 cents per head, including board. All other help is extra.

Some wool—not a large quantity—grading fine, half-blood and three-eighths, has been sold at 55 to 60 cents. None has been consigned as far as I know.

Alex Innes



## A VETERAN *Builds* A FARM

When 29-year-old Cecil Matlock came home after five years in the army, he bought 200 acres of thin, eroded land near Okemah in Okfuskee County, Oklahoma. These acres had the usual length and width, but without the soil depth or fertility that Cecil had in mind. With the help of his County Agent, Veteran Training Instructor and other farm leaders, he has started to make these 200 acres into a "new farm." He has a program that is doing the job, and paying its way at the same time.

"My big job was to keep all of the rainfall on the land, and to stop soil losses, so I constructed  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles of terraces. To grow the crops that would show a profit on this land and also make the soil improvements needed, I had to apply 145 tons of lime and 80 tons of phosphate. I used such crops as lespedeza, clovers, vetch, bermuda and rye grass, to hold my soil and build it up. These good crops, and my 50 head of beef cows, began to pay dividends right away."

To "keep busy" and to properly diversify his crop and livestock program, Cecil is renting 165 acres. Half of this is bottom land which has produced excellent cash and feed crops with the use of commercial fertilizer. This means enough feed to "feed-out" his calf crop as short

yearlings and all of the market hogs raised from five brood sows farrowing twice a year.

Cecil has already paid for his farm. He says, "Practically all of my income has come from the sale of my cattle and hogs." Cecil believes in good quality livestock and good management practices. Most of all, he knows that his good land use program can be maintained only by using livestock to harvest these soil-building crops and convert them into cash.

As might be expected, this young man who has the courage and vision to build such a farm, is also an active leader in his community as secretary of his county farm organization and member of the school board. There is no mystery about his progress—it stems from hard work and a sound livestock farming program. Cecil Matlock typifies the many progressive young farmers who are helping to make soil conservation a reality in America.



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